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Goldsmith

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PRESS OPINIONS.

"Contains much matter of moment to Yorkshire antiquaries."—*Notes and Queries* (London).

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"I am much obliged to you for sending me a specimen of your new magazine, 'Yorkshire Notes and Queries.' As a contributor to 'Notes and Queries' for nearly half a century, I welcome it. I hope you will let me say how much I congratulate you on the excellent form and contents of this magazine. If kept up by all the spirit that is indicated by this first number, it ought to prove a great success. To show you that I am not offering an opinion without having read the work, I will call your attention to two or three misprints, etc."—From E. W. BRABROOK, Esq., C.B., F.S.A. (Vice-President of the Royal Society of Literature).

ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON, E.C.

The Antiquary.

OCTOBER, 1908.

Notes of the Month.

A COMMITTEE consisting of many well-known antiquaries, local and other, has been formed with a view to the examination of the famous amphitheatre at Dorchester. An appeal for the necessary funds has been issued, signed by the honorary secretary, Mr. J. E. Acland, to whom at the County Museum, Dorchester, or to Mr. St. George Gray, Taunton Castle, contributions may be sent. A sum of at least £60 is required. The committee remark that the earthwork at Dorchester, commonly called "Maumbury," is generally considered a relic of the Roman occupation, the Amphitheatre of the Roman Durnovaria. They go on to say that "doubts have been expressed recently as to the truth of this conjecture, and it has been decided to make some careful investigation of the site with the object of solving the difficulty, and of obtaining at the same time much valuable information as to the construction of the work, and if possible of the date. The consent of the Duchy of Cornwall as landlord, and of the Dorchester Town Council as tenants, has been obtained. Mr. St. John Hope, Assistant-Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London, has aided the local committee with his advice, and Mr. St. George Gray, of Taunton, who has carried out many important excavations, has promised his personal supervision, and has undertaken to compile a careful report of the work. The investigation will be conducted with scrupulous care to insure that no injury shall come to our priceless relic of antiquity."

The Odessa correspondent of the *Standard*, under date August 22, wrote: "In the course of some further excavations on the site of the ancient Olbia, which is situated near the village of Tarutino, on the right bank of the Bug, some fifteen miles from Nicolaieff, there was discovered the other day the foundations of what is presumed to have been a strong tower or fortress lying on the north side of the ancient city, and a sepulchral marble slab, measuring 42 inches in length and 30 inches in breadth, bearing a Greek inscription in well-preserved red colour. In the lower stratum of the ruins large quantities of black lacquered earthenware and fragments of marble statuary and cornices were found, and some remains of sepulchres, in one of which was, besides antique earthenware, a vase of handsome structure, dating apparently from the end of the fifth or the beginning of the fourth century B.C. It bears on one side the heads of Amazons, and on the other those of horses and men. In two other tombs were found vases painted in white, blue, red, and green, the colours being marvellously fresh. Among these various discoveries special interest attaches to a small gilded terra-cotta Eros, with a high headdress, found in one of the tombs amongst glass pearls, and also a gilded spindle of human bones."



The *Times* of August 27 contained a deeply interesting commuuication, filling more than two columns, from Dr. Arthur Evans, telling the story of this year's work on the site of Knossos, in Crete. It is impossible to summarize it here. It is a record of wonderful revelations and of remarkable skill, intuition, and also structural ability on the part of the explorers. The fresh buildings which have been opened up, and the many relics found, all bear additional witness to the extraordinary development of art, and the wonderful attainments of civilization during the Minoan period. Much has been done, we note, to protect the parts of this Minoan palace, which have been laid bare, from the destructive results of exposure to the elements. We quote the final eloquently suggestive paragraph of this latest archæological romance: "It is specially interesting to note that not only the general features

of the 'Queen's Megaron' have been thus resuscitated, but with them the original system of lighting. From the open court to the east and the narrower area that flanks the inner section of the hall the light pours in between the piers and columns just as it did of old. In cooler tones it steals into the little bath-room behind. It dimly illumines the painted spiral frieze above its white gypsum dado, and falls below on the small terra-cotta bath-tub, standing much as it was left some three and a half millenniums back. The little bath bears a painted design of a character that marks the close of the great 'Palace Style.' By whom was it last used? By a Queen, perhaps, and mother for some 'Hope of Minos'—a hope that failed."

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Other recent archæological contributions of importance to the *Times* have been a detailed account of the recent excavations at the Avebury Stone Circle in the issue for September 1, and a communication in the issue for the previous day from the Rome correspondent on "The Zona Monumentale in Rome." The latter refers to the decision of the Italian Government to purchase and excavate a large tract of land between the Porta Capena and the Aurelian Wall—a decision welcomed by all archæologists, for the district in question should be peculiarly rich in public monuments.

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During the excavations recently carried on in Western Asia under the auspices of the British Museum a number of interesting discoveries have been made, but, owing to the terms of the firman granted by the Turkish Government for all excavations in Asia Minor, the major portion of the objects discovered have been retained by the Imperial Ottoman Museum at Constantinople. The Trustees of the British Museum have, however, acquired a few fine specimens, as well as casts of some of those which were retained. Among the objects acquired by the Museum is a fine statuette of the goddess Diana of Artemis from the excavations carried out on the site of her celebrated temple at Ephesus. From this site also were obtained a number of votive figures, and a small lion represented walking much after the style of the lion colossi from the Assyrian palaces at Nineveh. There is also a wreath of solid gold in the form of oak leaves and having a clasp in shape of a bee, discovered in a tomb on the shores of the Dardanelles. A very interesting object is a marble disc which evidently had formed part of a tomb; on it is a Greek inscription, which reads: "This is the tomb of Grathon; it was set up by his sister, who nursed him in vain." The above and some of the other objects discovered are on temporary exhibition in the terra-cotta room of the Greco-Roman department.

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Another acquisition recently placed on exhibition in the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery is a very fine sepulchral tablet of a high official of the Twelfth Dynasty, about 2200 B.C. The official, whose name was Teta, was attached to the Court of King Antef, and held various high and important offices. He is represented on his monument standing, and wearing the usual collar regularly worn by persons of high rank. Behind him are his two sons, who also were in the service of the Crown. Above these figures, which are in relief, are fourteen lines of well-cut hieroglyphics giving a biographical sketch of the life of the deceased. In front of Teta are five vertical lines of inscription, containing the usual prayer to Osiris and the other gods of the under-world.

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Mr. John Hebb, of Brighton, sends us the following interesting note: "The recent robberies of church plate in the district of Limousin—the parish churches of Aubazine, Saint-Viance Bort and Uzerche, in the department of Haute Vienne, having been despoiled of priceless works of art in less than two months—have directed attention to the unprotected condition of other masterpieces of early ecclesiastical art scattered about in village churches in France. For the reliquary of Saint-Viance a celebrated dealer made an offer, in 1877, of 213,000 francs (£8,520). This reliquary has been abstracted, although the relics of the saint and the modern case enclosing the reliquary have been recovered, the thieves apparently not considering these objects of value. The village priest and the mayor of Laguenne sold for 250 francs (£10) to a Limoges jeweller the shrine of St. Calmine, a cele-

brated example of Limousin enamel work, which subsequently changed hands several times. It was sold at the sale of the Soltykoff collection for 137,000 francs (£5,420), and then disappeared. This work of art, which had been catalogued, registered, exhibited, photographed, has been carried away to some unknown destination. Not only isolated examples, such as the shrine of Gimel, the reliquary of Noailles, are threatened, but even such a unique collection as the treasure of Conques in the Aveyron. This collection, which in itself is sufficient to furnish the museum of a town, is housed in a wretched room at the back of a presbytery, which is exposed every winter to risk from fire. The custodian of this treasure, it is said, was able before the inventory was taken, to transfer to his colleagues of the Premonstratensian Order in Spain many objects of inestimable value, among others an alb of Venice point worth a king's ransom. He, however, still remains the official and irresponsible guardian of 129 pieces of church plate, among which is the gold reliquary of Pepin, the gift of Pepin of Aquitaine, the most ancient piece of jewellers' work in France, dating from the year 817, and perhaps even now one of the most beautiful, notwithstanding the restorations and partial abstractions to which it has been subjected. Conques also contains the gold statue of St. Foy, a work which in the midst of the middle ages took the rigidity, the symmetry, the solemnity, and air of mystery we associate with the art of Egypt. This statue is not all of one date; the throne on which it is seated not being of the same age as the crown of four circlets gemmed with innumerable precious stones, emeralds, sapphires, cloisonné enamels, antique intaglios, and unset stones. The earrings are the most complete works left to us from the middle ages. The value of the statue can only be estimated in tens of thousands of pounds. In 1900 a collector made an offer of 200,000 francs (£8,000) for the collar of sapphires round the neck."



A discovery of importance for the history of Umbrian architecture was made early in September beneath the Cathedral of Città della Pieve, the building which contains some of Perugino's masterpieces. On a wall being removed a crypt, supported by nine columns, has come to light, and it is supposed that this chamber was a portion of the original cathedral.

Another recent Italian discovery is that of frescoes of the Umbrian School, which was made in August in the little church of St. Maria "Within the Gates," at Foligno. The church in question, which is near the gate leading to the quaint little Umbrian town of Todi, is supposed to have been once honoured by the presence of St. Peter. However that may be, there is little doubt as to the value of the frescoes, which have recently come to light from beneath the whitewash of the walls. One of them represents St. Apollonia, another St. Lucia, a third St. Nicola of Bari, and a fourth the Crucifixion, with the figure of St. John on the one side and that of the Madonna on the other. The frescoes are surmised to have been the work of Pietro Mezzastris or of one of his pupils.

The *Builder* of August 22 and 29 contained some good sketches of old buildings in Ypres, Bruges, and neighbouring towns, in illustration of some of the places visited by the Architectural Association in the course of their annual excursion, for which Bruges was this year the headquarters. The sketches included the belfry tower at Bruges, admirably drawn; the grand tower of St. Martin at Ypres; a curious, deeply-recessed timber arch under a gable in the Cloth Hall at the same old town; the richly decorated exterior of the Hôtel de Ville at Bruges; the timber roof of the Town Hall at Damme; the most picturesque Skippers' House, Ghent, 1531; the Hospital of St. John, Bruges; details of ironwork at Ghent and Bruges; and the handsome tower of the Church of St. Walburga, Oudenarde.



The issue of the same journal for September 5 contained an illustration of a splendid Chinese bronze bowl, which we are courteously allowed to reproduce on the next page. This is the bowl to which Mr. E. Harper Parker referred in a letter to the *Times* of August 31, complaining of the lack of public apprecia-

tion of the Oriental Collections at the South Kensington Museum. "As this gentleman remarks," says our contemporary, "it is one of the few perfect historical Chinese specimens the world possesses of the pre-Confucian period. It is of bronze, inlaid with gold and silver. The sides are ornamented with ogres' features (t'ao t'ich) on a ground of rectangular spiral fret (lei wên) representing clouds. The interior is covered with an inscription of over 500 characters, recording the speeches in which the Emperor Hsiang Wang (651-619 B.C.) acknowledged the services of the Prince of Tsin, di'ung Erh (696-628 B.C.), bestowed rewards upon him and appointed him chief of the Feudal Princes outside the Royal domain. This took place in the year 632 B.C. The inscription records that the bowl was finished and inscribed on a certain day in the second month of the same year. It was formerly in the collection of the hereditary Princes of Yi at Pekin. The Museum authorities acquired it for £80 at the sale of the Bushell Collection; Mr. Parker suggests that its market value at an auction would now be nearer £8,000. The height is 10¼ inches, and the diameter 2 feet 9¼ inches."



A PRE-CONFUCIAN CHINESE BRONZE.



Workmen who were employed by the Town Council of Filey in August to dig for the ancient market or wayside cross were successful in finding a part of it at the point indicated. It is a square block of Filey Brigg stone — evidently the base of the cross—measuring 2 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, 2 feet in depth, with a slot in the centre, in which still remain the splintered fragments of an upright. The surface bears many rudely-cut letters, including a large "F.," but these are probably only the initials of the idle lads or the vandals of past days. The position of the relic was reported to the Council by the Vicar of Filey —on behalf of the East Riding Antiquarian Society—who stated that it had been divulged to him by the son of the man who had buried it more than half a century ago, when an old beck leading to the ravine was filled in with rubble. The stone has been temporarily removed to the Council's yard, but will be erected in a public place on a site yet to be determined. Old residents state that they remember it with an oaken cross-piece, when it used to stand at a point where the Scarborough high-road enters the town.

Alderman Jacob reports progress from Winchester in the following interesting notes: "The great work of securing the safety of the vast historic structure, Winchester Cathedral, is making satisfactory progress under the hands of the staff of Messrs. Thompson, of Peterborough, whose manager, Mr. Ferrar, so carefully oversees the interesting operations in conjunction with Mr. Long, who represents

Mr. Jackson, R.A. The recent pageant augmented the fund to the extent of £2,000, and there are yet wanted nearly £30,000. The first instalment of the reparation was that on the foundations and weakened aisles of De Lucy's retro choir, his lady chapel, and the addition of Silkstede in the Perpendicular style. De Lucy's aisles, which are perhaps the earliest example of the Early English style, and exceedingly beautiful, have been underpinned with blocks of cement, laid after the water had been pumped and the peat dug out—a great operation, carried out with the aid of a steam-pump and a diver, who worked in 20 feet of water at times. The sinking of the foundations of De Lucy, laid as they were on trunks of beech-trees placed horizontally on the peat, made the walls and buttresses incline outwards, and the vaulting to become dangerous. This has all been remedied, save that the walls have been left as they have been for perhaps centuries—to have got them upright would have necessitated rebuilding. They are now secure for all time. The vaulting has been carefully repaired where necessary and keyed up, and strong iron rods are carried across the three aisles and bolted with the buttresses on the north and south sides. Happily these rods, painted stone colour, are not obtrusively seen. The scaffolding is now removed, both within and without, and the beauties of De Lucy's work can once more be viewed and appreciated, and the rich chantries of Bishops Orlton, Beaufort, Wayneflete, and Langton seen and admired.



"The north transept is being now underpinned and repaired, the many, and in some cases great, cracks in the walls, which are of long standing, being filled with cement forced in by machinery before the walls are again pointed. The Norman tower is also being dealt with—it is quite safe; and after these portions of the reparation are finished the south transept, the weakest part of the Norman structure, will be entered on. The reparation of this transept brings before us the beautiful stone screen of the Ionic order, designed by Inigo Jones, once placed between the nave and choir, which screen was displaced in the early part of the nineteenth century for a Gothic structure, itself replaced by a carved oak screen by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1873. Jones's screen had two niches occupied by the fine bronze statues of James I. and Charles I., given by the latter monarch, and the work of Hubert le Seiur, who was paid £340. In the rebellion of Cromwell they were pulled down by the rebels, and the city accounts have this entry: "Payd for carrying the Statues out of the Cathedral, v^{s}." They were sold for £10, buried till the Restoration, and then replaced in their niches. They now stand at the west end, and look down the vast nave. The screen itself has been packed away in the triforium of the south transept, and is, of course, a great dead-weight, which the architect and engineer of the Cathedral works insist must be moved out, as a necessity for relieving the Norman structure. The removal is easy, but not so the providing of a suitable place for Jones's handsome screen, which is not meant for out of doors. We hope the difficulty may be overcome. Here the wall of the gable is many inches out of the perpendicular, and the scaffolding itself is a wonderful piece of construction. All the cracks in every part of the great building are 'stopt' with cement and numbered. We believe they exceed 100. All are dated when put on, and careful observation indicates the least movement of the walls to Mr. Ferrar and others. During the many excavations made, relics of the past occupation of the site from Roman to later times have been found and preserved. The most notable lately found was a silver penny of King Stephen, with the Southampton moneyer's name, which makes it a rare example of the money of this King. The most interesting recovery of ancient work has been that of many fragments of really splendid Early English work executed in Purbeck marble. These were found built in under an old exterior flight of steps, and hopes are entertained of finding other fragments. They are part of, perhaps, the end of De Lucy's Lady Chapel, which was removed when the last bay was added to it in Henry VII.'s reign. A fragment of a Saxon column has also been found, and many pieces of Norman and Decorated work, and fragments of statuettes. Mr. Ferrar uses every care in preserving these recoveries."

The report of the Committee on Ancient Earthworks and Fortified Enclosures, presented to the Archæological Congress in July, has now been issued. The Committee, after paying a well-deserved tribute to the services of the late Mr. I. Chalkley Gould, and announcing that Mr. Arthur G. Chater has kindly consented to follow him as Honorary Secretary, go on to say that, for reasons which will be understood, the present must be looked upon as an interim report. It is hoped to make good some of its deficiencies next year. We are glad to note that, in consequence of representations made by the Chairman of the Committee, the Board of Agriculture have now granted increased facilities for the examination of Ordnance maps. Other points in the report are that Maiden Castle, near Dorchester, has now been definitively transferred under the Ancient Monuments Acts to the guardianship of the Commissioners of Works; and that Colonel Mainwaring, of Rhyl, has recently purchased the important hill-fort at Pen-y-gaer, near Cerrig-y-Druidion, Denbighshire, with a view to its preservation as a monument of antiquity. It is to be hoped that other persons may be induced to take similar action. It is understood that a portion of the Thetford Castle Mound, Norfolk, has been acquired by the Corporation of Thetford.

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Under the heading of "Destruction" we are glad to note that the cases noted are few and comparatively unimportant. Under "Exploration" are various items which have been chronicled from time to time in our pages. The report includes a useful bibliography of books and articles on earthworks and cognate subjects, printed since the issue of the previous report.

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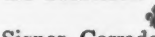
A discovery of Roman remains has been made near Llanymynech, Montgomeryshire, by Professor Bosanquet, of Liverpool, and Father Moore, Welshpool. They were making a tour of the locality in search of Roman remains, and on the road leading from Llanymynech to Llansantffraid came across a grass-covered road, indisputably Roman, and in an excellent state of preservation.

Professor Elliot Smith and Dr. Wood Jones have recently completed the examination and arrangement of the Nubian Pathological Collection, presented a few months ago to the Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, by the Egyptian Government, which undoubtedly forms one of the most important contributions ever made to the knowledge of the history of human infirmities, showing the injuries, maladies, and peculiarities, of the people who lived in the Valley of the Nile from prehistoric until early Christian times—a period of about 5,000 years. The remains found were often in a remarkable state of preservation, owing to the nature of the climate and the care taken of ancient sepulchres. In a post-Roman grave a woman was discovered so well preserved that it is possible to say that she suffered from the condition now known as appendicitis. This is considered to be the earliest evidence of this malady. Many of the specimens obtained illustrate fracture and union of bones, and it is to be noted that the surgical results are apparently as good as are oblained by modern means. The bone most frequently broken was the ulna of the forearm, says Professor Smith, as that limb invariably served to ward off blows in a peculiar style of fencing still practised in modern Egypt. Gout was found in an early Christian subject, but no irrefutable evidence is forthcoming of tuberculosis.

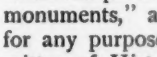
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Mr. W. Claridge, M.A., of 47, Market Street, Bradford, writes: "I have recently been transcribing the grant of the mill of Silsden to the Canons of Embsay, by the Countess of Romille. After granting the mill and all the corn-grinding rights of Silsden to the Canons, and prohibiting the use of even a hand-mill, the Countess adds: 'Si quis autem de predicta villa renuerit venire ad predictum molendinum ego et heredes mei compellemus eum illud sequi ita quod si repertus fuerit veniens ab alio molendino saccus et bladus erit canonicorum et equus *et forisfactura* erit mea et heredum meorum.' I am not at all sure of the force of 'forisfactura,' especially with the 'et' in front of it. Without the 'et' I take it that the horse would be the forfeiture, but with the 'et' I am at a loss to know what the forfeiture would be.

I should be very much obliged if you could throw any light on the force of the word in this case. At the same time, may I ask whether 'bladus' refers to the corn in the sack or to the growing corn in the field? As the whole deed is curious, I enclose a copy of it, with the part on which I am asking questions italicized."

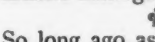


As the deed is short, we print it in full: "Karissimo Domino & Patri suo, T. Archiepiscopo Eboracensi et omnibus Christi fidelibus presentibus et futuris, Cecilia de Rumelio Salutem in Domino. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et presenti carta confirmasse, Deo et Beate Marie et Sancto Chutberto Emesai et canonicis ibidem Deo Servientibus molendinum de Sighelesden cum omni moltura ejusdem ville et opere molendini quod mihi debebatur et cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus quas ego habui in predicto molendino sine aliquo retentimento in liberam, puram, et perpetuam helemosinam. Ita scilicet quod alium molendinum ab aliquo hominum sine voluntate et consensu canonicorum in eadem villa non fiat, nec etiam manu mola habeatur. *Si quis autem de predicta villa renuerit venire ad predictum molendinum ego et heredes mei compellemus eum illud sequi ita quod si repertus fuerit veniens ab alio molendino saccus et* BLADUS *erit canonicorum et equus et* FORISFACTURA *erit mea et heredum meorum.* His testibus Rainero dapifero, Irone constabulario, Hugone capellano, Waltero Picot, Willelmo Uitand, Reginaldo Re . . . el."



"An interesting apartment, situated in the oldest portion of the conventual buildings of the Abbey, will, we gather," says the *Builder* of September 12, "be shortly opened to the public. The room commonly known as the 'Monks' Cell' is being reinstated and fitted with a tiled floor, under the superintendence of the Clerk of the Works to the Dean and Chapter, for the purposes of a museum, in which will be exhibited various relics and similar objects relating to the archæological history of the Abbey. The room adjoins the Chapel of the Pyx, and what is now the gymnasium of Westminster School. It is entered from the darkened passage which leads out of the south-east corner of the great cloisters. The passage passes between the Refectory and the site of the Misericorde on the west, and on the east the range of cellars in the substructure of the Monks' Dormitory, *temp.* King Edward the Confessor."

Signor Corrado Ricci, the Director of the Italian Fine Arts Department, has decided to begin the publication of the catalogue of the ancient and mediæval monuments existing in the different townships of Italy. The catalogue will be illustrated, and when finished will form a complete list of the various monuments composing the vast artistic heritage of the country.



So long ago as April 20, 1874, a Decree of the French Government placed the old Abbey of Mont Saint-Michel, with its belongings, under the care of the Department of Fine Arts, and in 1879 the local Commune gave up in favour of the State all claims to any ownership of the land immediately surrounding the famous old town. Now a second Decree, dated July 17 last, orders that the old ramparts of Mont Saint-Michel, commonly called "the town ramparts," and as they appeared on the plan of the place last January, shall be henceforth under the sole care of the Department of Fine Arts. This Decree has been issued with a view to preserving the old ramparts. Henceforth these ramparts will be treated as "historical monuments," and they cannot be touched for any purpose whatever unless the Committee of Historical Monuments shall have agreed thereto.

Just as we go to press it is reported that Mr. Bligh Bond, while excavating at Glastonbury Abbey, has found buried close under the south wall of the nave of the great church a skeleton, complete and in an excellent state of preservation, of a man who must have been more than 6 feet in height. The skull, it is said, was enclosed in a curiously shaped ring of carved stone, cut purposely for the head to rest therein. Another stone covered the feet, but the remainder of the body was over the clay.

The French Descent on the Isle of Wight, July, 1545.

By Percy G. Stone, F.S.A.

I.—The French Account, extracted from the "Memoires" of Martin du Bellay, 1513-1546.

LATELY came across in the Memoirs of Martin du Bellay, published in Paris, 1582, an exhaustive account—from the other side—of the French invasion of the Wight in the summer of 1545.

Martin du Bellay, Sieur de Langey, Chevalier de l'Ordre du Roy, was a person of some importance, both as a man of letters and a soldier—a rare combination in those days. His elder brother, William, was Lieutenant-General for Francis I. in Italy, while his other brother was Cardinal du Bellay, the diplomatist. After the death of his brother he was appointed governor of the important town of Turin, and held the province of Piedmont against the Imperialist forces. He was also Lieutenant-General for the King in Normandy, and, as well as taking part in the defence of his country against the English and Burgundians, was frequently employed by Francis on diplomatic missions. His account of events, from 1513 to 1546, is impartial and trustworthy, his style simple and soldierly, his facts as accurate as one side can be expected to make them. So much for our author.

It is a matter of history that Henry VIII., in 1544, landed troops at Calais to co-operate with his ally, the Emperor Charles V., in a predetermined invasion of France. The two monarchs, advancing respectively from the north and east, were to concentrate on Paris, and join forces before that city. Both, however, were young and ardent for glory, and could not resist the temptation of attacking the strong places *en route*—hence the failure of the campaign. Henry sat down before Boulogne and laid regular siege to it—as may be seen in the interesting set of prints made by Vertue from the Cowdray House originals for the Society of Antiquaries. The Governor of the town, the Marshal du Biez, Lieutenant for the King in Picardy, had left the place in charge of his son-in-law, the Seigneur de Vervein, a man of little experience, while he hurried to the relief of Montreuil, then in a state of siege by the Imperial troops. After a bombardment by the heavy guns brought from England and a series of assaults, M. de Vervein surrendered—for which he was later on beheaded in Paris—and the English entered the place to eventually hold it during a protracted siege. Charles, vexed with Henry for stopping to besiege Montreuil and Boulogne, opened negotiations with Francis, and ordered his troops to withdraw from the English lines. The French King, on his part, sent a mission to Henry, under the conduct of the Cardinal du Bellay, which came to naught, as the English were now masters of Boulogne. In vain the Dauphin marched to the relief of the place; he found it could now only be taken by regular siege operations. Francis therefore resolved on a counter-stroke. He ordered a large and efficient fleet to be raised under the command of Claude d'Annebault, an experienced seaman and soldier, for the invasion of England. This armada, consisting of one hundred and fifty battleships (*gros vaisseaux ronds*), sixty decked pinnaces (*flouins*), and twenty-five galleys from the Levant, set sail on July 16, 1545, from the northern ports and shaped its course for the Isle of Wight. Misfortune dogged its steps from the first. The Admiral's ship, a great carrack of 800 tons, caught fire from the cook's galley, the result it is said, of giving a dinner to the ladies on the eve of departure, and was burnt to the water-line. Transferring his flag to the *Maîtresse*, the next largest ship of the squadron, he had the ill-luck to run her aground as she left the harbour of Honfleur, which led to a serious disaster later on. The English fleet, which on account of contrary winds could not hinder the sailing of the French ships, retired to Portsmouth and awaited their arrival. On July 18, d'Annebault arrived off the Isle of Wight—and here our tale begins.

"He commanded the Baron de la Garde, with four galleys, to go and reconnoitre the Island to St. Helens Point and ascertain the disposition of the enemy. This point is at the entrance of the Channel which separates the Isle of Wight from England, opposite to

Portsmouth. The enemy's fleet consisted of sixty picked ships, well manned and equipped (*très bien ordonnez en la guerre*), forty of which, favoured by the land breeze, came out from Portsmouth with great promptitude and in such good order that one might say they awaited with assurance the advance of our force to give it battle (*que l'on eust dit qu ils attendoient de pied coy nostre pour la combattre*). But the Admiral, advancing against them with the rest of the galleys, the remainder of their fleet came out of the harbour to oppose him. After a lengthy artillery engagement (*à coups de canon*), the enemy began to edge away to the left, under shelter of the land, to a place where they were protected by some forts which were on the cliff, and on the other side by sand-banks and rocks covered with water lying across the fairway, leaving only a narrow and slanting entry for but few ships abreast. This retreat and the approach of darkness put an end to the fighting for this day, and in spite of the amount of cannon and other artillery which were fired, we received little appreciable hurt. When the galleys had returned to St. Helens Point news came to the Admiral that the *Maîtresse*—the best and principal ship of our fleet and on which he had resolved to fight—had run aground, and there was little hope but to save the crew and the King's money which was in her for payment of the fleet. The cause of this disaster was presumed to be that, coming out of Honfleur Harbour, as she headed for the roadstead, the said vessel grounded, and from the shock the keel was displaced and the hull damaged, with the result that the seams of the planking opened to such extent that the caulking (*les estouppes*), which was badly pressed into the said seams, began to let in the water to such a degree that the following day the ship, being tossed by a strong wind, leaked so badly that they could scarce get rid of the water by pumping (*à l'evacuation*). The Admiral having gone to the assistance as well of the crew as the said ship, found that the Seigneur de la Mileraye, Vice-Admiral of France, had already unloaded and sent her into harbour for repair. This done, the Admiral, having despatched another vessel in her stead, issued fighting instructions for the morrow. The order was that the ship he had selected to replace the one sent back into harbour, which he intended to command himself, should lead, accompanied by thirty picked vessels. The Seigneur de Boutiers, sailing by the side of this squadron on the right wing, was accompanied by a like number of ships. The Baron de Curton, on the left wing, led a similar force, and, having considered the advantageous position the enemy held, ordered the galleys to take up a position in the morning where they could maintain a hot cannonade with the enemy, and during the engagement retire towards our fighting line (*nos batailles*), in order to, if possible, draw on a general engagement (*pour les avoir au large au combat*) and entice them outside the narrows. This order was very daringly executed, but the changeable weather so varied the danger (*mais le temps fist par son changemẽt telle commutation de danger*) that one could not judge in so short a space of time to which side Fortune had shown herself the more favourable, ourselves or our enemies, for in the morning, favoured by the sea, which was calm, without wind or strong current, our galleys were able to manœuvre (*regir et manier*) at their pleasure and to the disadvantage of the enemy, who, not being able to move for want of wind, remained exposed to the fire of our artillery, which had greater power on the ships than they had on it, the ships being higher out of water and more bulky; added to which, our galleys, by using their oars, could retire out of danger and gain the advantage. In this manner Fortune favoured our arms for more than an hour, during which time, in addition to other damage received by the enemy, the *Mary Rose*, one of their principal ships, was sunk by cannon shot,* and of the five or six hundred men who were in her only thirty-five were saved. The *Great Harry*, which carried their Admiral, was so damaged that had it not been aided and supported by the neighbouring ships, it would have come to a like end. They would have sustained still more notable losses had not the weather turned in their favour, which not only freed them from this peril, but also enabled them

* Sir John Oglander's account differs here, and puts the disaster down to practically the same cause which sunk the *Royal George*.

to attack us, by the rise of a land wind, which bore them with the tide full sail against our galleys; and so sudden was this change that our men scarcely had time or opportunity to turn their prows; for during the calm I have mentioned, and in the heat of the engagement, the galleys were so hotly attacked, the ships coming down on them so suddenly and at such speed, that unavoidably they would have struck them below the water-line and sent them to the bottom had they not, by the presence of mind of the commanders, and the address and experience of the sailors and convicts, been turned with a will and quickly. By this means our men, having turned their prows by the smartness of their rowing and the management of their sails, in less than an hour got out of range and began to row more gently and slacken their way so to entice the enemy, as they had been ordered, outside the sandbanks and dangers of the place above mentioned. There was a special kind of ship used by our enemies, in shape longer than broad, and much narrower than the galleys, the better to contend with the currents which are usual in this sea, to which the men are so accustomed, that with these vessels they compete with the galleys in swiftness, and are called row barges (*ramberges*). Some of these boats were lying within this shelter, and with incredible speed followed our ships astern and grievously annoyed them with their artillery fire, because ours, having no stern artillery, were obliged to turn on them and so expose themselves to obvious destruction, for, while thus turning to fight, the enemy had time to board them full sail and run them down. However, the Prior of Capua, brother to Pierre Strosse, unable to stand this indignity any longer, and trusting to the smartness of his galley in manœuvring, began to turn on one of them, which, being ahead of the others, nearly took one of our galleys athwart hawse (*par pouppe*), but this ship, by being shorter, turned first and made its way straight again towards its squadron, after which neither it nor the others were able to follow. Meanwhile the Admiral had gone on board his ship, having put the others in array according to the disposition explained above, and would have given the signal to begin the action had he not seen the enemy retire from their pursuit (of the galleys) and retrace their course towards their fort, where they knew they could wait in safety till we, trusting to our strength, should rashly come and seek them at our disadvantage, for he divined their intention of not following our galleys till they could do so without risk, hoping to draw us on to the sandbanks and shallows. In the encounter we lost a few galley slaves and a small number of fighting men taken prisoners, but of men of mark not one.

"The Admiral, having grasped the enemy's plan, resolved to try and draw them out by other means. Having news of the King of England's arrival at Portsmouth, he was of opinion that by landing, wasting, and burning his country in his sight, and slaying his men almost within his reach (*entre ses mains*), indignation at such an injury, compassion for the blood and death of his subjects, and the wasting and burning of his country, would move him to such an extent that he would despatch his fleet to their assistance, especially as they were but two cannon-shot distant, unless he wished to incur the wrath of his subjects on seeing themselves unaided in any way by the presence of their Sovereign, which would result in a conspiracy and rebellion throughout his dominions. To keep the enemy's forces separated, a simultaneous descent was made in three different places. On one side, the Seigneur Pierre Strosse was bidden to land below a little fort where the enemy had mounted some guns, with which they assailed our galleys in flank, and within which a number of Island infantry (*gens de pied du pays*) had retired. These, seeing the boldness of our men, abandoned the fort and fled southward to the shelter of a copse. Our men pursued and killed some of them, and burned the surrounding habitations. In another place there landed the Seigneur de Tais, general of the foot-soldiers, and with him the Baron de la Garde, commander of the galleys. Meeting with no opposition, they pressed on to reconnoitre and spy out the country, but they had not gone far before they came across some companies of footmen, who by hidden ways, and screened by the wood, had assembled in the most advantageous spots to give us battle. These,

confident in their position, showed a bold front to our men and wounded some of them —among others the Seigneur de Moneins had his right hand pierced by an arrow—but the rest of our men, marching in array, made them abandon their position and retire precipitately (*à vau de roupte*) by the same way they had come, where we could only follow them in loose order and in single file. In another place there landed two captains of the galleys, Marsay and Pierrebon, who were both wounded in a fight with an English band that had assembled (to oppose their landing).

"The other fighting men, meanwhile, were on board the ships awaiting the Admiral's orders to disembark, and seeing the country-side ablaze and the seaboard undefended, landed unobserved and without leave in a spot at a distance from their commander (*coronal*), so as not to be prevented by him. These, landing without guide or commander, scattered themselves over the country at will and with no plan of campaign, and having in sight of the enemy gained the top of a range of hills traversing the breadth of the Island, were assailed by horse and foot so briskly that some were killed and others captured and the rest driven in disorder to the foot of the hill close to the shore, where, thanks to our army and a hedge and ditch they came across, they rallied and made a stand against the coming of their comrades who were in the ships, many of whom, anxious for their fellows, hastily manned their boats and went to their assistance. This gave the men ashore such courage that they regained the hill, put the enemy to flight, and forced them to retreat inland (*loing en terre*) to a stream which they crossed by a bridge, cutting it behind them for fear of our pursuit, and there made a stand awaiting reinforcement. This having come to the knowledge of the Admiral, he concluded they, being without officers, were only stragglers (*vagabonds*), and so would receive no ill-treatment. He therefore bade the Seigneur de Tais to go in person and conduct their retirement, which he did.

"The day following, the said Lord Admiral, seeing he could not by any means entice the enemy out to fight, determined to attack their place of refuge, and accordingly publicly assembled all the pilots, captains, and seamen to ascertain more fully the nature and circumstances of the position and the proper remedy to apply against the danger of the sandbanks before mentioned; representing to them our superiority both in the number of our ships and the valour of our men, and pointing out what advantage such a victory would bring to the King and country—a victory he was certain of if he could only get at the enemy. He found the soldiers, both officers and men, eager to fight; but the inconveniences of the position represented so many risks that the naval captains and pilots assured him of the impossibility of undertaking it without certain loss. And the reasons they brought forward were these: That the entrance was by a channel where only four ships could go abreast and could be easily defended by the enemy bringing forward a like number to oppose them; besides, one could only enter on a favourable wind and tide, and when the said four ships should be obstructed the current would carry those following upon them and shatter them. Added to this, the enemy would be fighting on their own ground, whence they would be aided by their artillery, to our detriment. Again, it had not been considered that if the ships fouled and damaged one another (*s'abordoient et acrochoient*), the force of the current would assuredly drive them ashore on the top of one another.

"A fight at anchor was then suggested, to which the pilots made reply that cables could be cut, and where this was not possible the danger would be none the less, for the current was of such a nature that it would always turn the ships' bows towards it, and so bring the sterns of our vessels towards the enemy instead of their bows or sides. For these reasons they advised another plan, that in anchoring the ships they should not be hauled up too short, because they would plunge violently, and in straining would foul or break anchor and cable. For this reason they must pay out the cable gradually, and by this means prevent the ships from grounding and so starting their planks and foundering. These arguments were so apparent that they could not be gainsaid, but the Admiral and the other commanders, believing that the

pilots—as they were all agreed in their dictum — had only by cowardice made things out worse than they really were, would not be satisfied till he had sent to sound the depth of the channel, ascertain its width, and estimate the advantage the interior of the inlet (*goulphe*) gave the enemy. Accordingly he commissioned three pilots, accompanied by as many captains, to sound during the night at their leisure and settle the question. On their return next morning their report agreed with what you have heard, and they added that the entry to the channel was not straight, but winding and trending towards the enemy, so that an enemy's ship could scarce enter without a pilot or without the certainty of being discovered and having to fight. This report being made in the presence of the commanders, they consulted together as to what was most expedient to be done in the service of the King—whether to withdraw hence and shape their course to Picardy and help our army by preventing the English reliefs getting into Boulogne, or to remain and fortify the Isle of Wight, which would do great harm to the English realm. Among other reasons which led some of the seigneurs present to wish to fortify the Island was that, having it in our power, we could easily make ourselves masters of Portsmouth, one of the finest English ports, and by that means put the enemy to incredible expense in having to maintain an army both by sea and land to make head against our forces. Besides, we should be on the thoroughfare to Spain and Flanders, which we could hold at our pleasure—and in time cultivate the Island and gather provisions for the support of the garrison the King would keep there. These schemes seemed great ones and worthy of consideration, but, contrariwise, others spoke of difficulties not less worth considering. Firstly, in the opinion of the Seigneurs de Tais and de St. Remy and other experts, having selected a convenient place to fortify —which should be of a semicircular form— they would have to build three forts simultaneously: two on the two points of the semicircle to defend the roadstead and protect our ships, the other on the high ground to house our men, which would entail a great expenditure and could not be executed under three months, and would, besides, necessitate 6,000 pioneers. The place, too, being in the heart of the enemy's country, they could not leave a guard of less than 6,000 soldiers—at the time an impossibility if they were to leave the ships equipped. Furthermore, the troops could not be withdrawn till the fort was in a state of defence, and to delay was impossible, as we had no port of refuge against the rage and fury of the wind nor abundance of provisions, and the late season approaching, which is always rainy and windy, the ships would not be safe, nor would the soldiers left ashore be able to withstand the rigour of the weather, having no dwellings to shelter them, neither tents nor huts. Which inconveniences turned the others from their opinion, and it was agreed to defer the matter till the King's wishes had been ascertained. As to my opinion, it seems to me, *pace* the Seigneurs de Tais and St. Remy, that, considering the desire and opportunity the King had of procuring a peace with his enemy, the King of England, here was such a chance as had not offered itself for a long time. But God orders things as seem Him best.

"Meantime the galleys took in water, for the coming night they were to set sail for Dover, coasting the Isle of Wight, to cross to Boulogne. The spot they found most handy to fill the casks was a place at the foot of a hill adjoining the shore of the Island, opposite Havre de Grace. Having arrived there, Chevalier d'Aux, a Provençal captain of the galleys raised in Normandy, not to be stopped from getting fresh water by fear lest his men should be attacked at a disadvantage while thus occupied, landed to set a guard, and, having no confidence in his convict-master, placed him with a band of men who had followed him on his leaving his galley and climbed to the top of a hill to overlook them the better. Here he fell into an ambuscade of Englishmen, who made him run so briskly that his men, having had no leisure to reconnoitre, were put to flight and deserted him. At this moment the chevalier was struck in the knee by an arrow, which made him stumble, and then on rising he was struck on the head by a bill, which are the arms carried by the English,

so severely that it beat his morion from his head and made him stumble a second time, when another blow dashed out his brains (*lequel luy fist tomber la cervelle à terre*), which was a great loss to the King's service, for he was a right valiant and experienced gentleman. While some of the enemy were occupied in stripping him of his armour, the rest pursued our men, who did not recover themselves or stop till they got to the shore. On seeing this, the Admiral sent the Seigneur de Tais to rally them and make them hold out in some neighbouring dwellings, so as not to throw into disorder those who were getting the water. On his arrival, a number of good and tried soldiers he had brought with him, and others who formed the escort to the water-carriers, formed up and marched straight at the enemy and drove them back to the hill, by which means they received no further loss. The Prior of Capua was assailed in another place, but he was so well attended and so well versed in such matters that after he had put more than thirty to the edge of the sword he put the rest to flight. In the evening the Admiral retired and next day set sail, himself remaining as a rearguard with the galleys to withstand the enemy should they sally out. So favourable was the wind on the departure of our fleet that it arrived at Valseau [Shoreham?], fourteen leagues from the Isle of Wight, before the galleys could come up with the ships. This place, being level and open, presented such a good opportunity for landing that a great number of our men took the occasion to go ashore, which they did in the absence of their commander without order or guidance.* Straggling some distance from the shore towards a village, which appeared deserted, they assailed it, thinking to obtain booty; but they were awaited by the enemy near a stream which was pretty deep by reason of the ebb of the tide. These, seeing part of our men had passed over some planks, suddenly issued from a little fort where they had lain in ambush, and, after breaking the bridge to hinder the others from crossing, charged those on their side so vigorously that they were compelled to take safety in flight. In recrossing the bridge, however, some of our men were carried away by the stream and drowned, while others, who knew how to swim, strove against the force of the water and saved themselves, thanks to their comrades on the other side of the stream, who supported them by arquebus fire. Meanwhile the Admiral arrived and repulsed the enemy with artillery fire and made them evacuate the fort, and by this means retired our men."

Thus ended the French *coup de reprisal*, with the English not much the worse for their coming. Admiral d'Annebault set sail the same evening he rescued his undisciplined force from annihilation at the hands of the Sussex men for the port of Whitehaven (*Blanchef*); then, coasting by Rye till close to Dover, he shaped his course for Boulogne, to take in provisions for the fleet, and put ashore some 7,000 men for the reinforcement of the Dauphin's army of investment. This confirms what our author urges, that they could easily have left the number of men suggested in the Isle of Wight, adding that he had it from the commissaries of stores they could also have left provisions for six weeks.

Next month will appear the account from the English side, written by Sir John Oglander, who may have spoken with those whose sires were in the fight, and also have read this account of M. du Bellay, published in Paris in 1582. This will enable readers to compare the two, which agree in most of the details.

* Another case of "French leave," which does not speak well for their discipline

The Comacines.

By W. Ravenscroft, F.S.A.

(*Continued from p.* 337.)

TO gather and sum up as a brief biography of these men, it would appear that when, in A.D. 298, the Emperor Diocletian was building his baths in Rome, he included a temple to Æsculapius, the God of Health. At that time there were four craftsmen, by name Claduis, Castorius, Semphorianus, and Nicostratus, sculptors by trade, or more likely

"stone-squarers." They were Christians, and on account of their great skill, which they secretly attributed to their doing everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, they were in much favour with the Emperor. A fifth craftsman, however, Simplicius, was not so successful, and his tools failed to do the work required of them until taken in hand by Claduis, who said: "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let this iron be strong and fit to work well." Then Simplicius set to work again, and succeeded with the rest. Moreover, he inquired as to this mystery, and, being converted by Claduis, repaired with the other four to Bishop Quirillus, then in prison, and ultimately at his hands received Christian baptism. Then followed disputes with the philosophers, who denounced them to Diocletian as Christians.

He on his part used his influence to save them, and it is not unlikely this remarkable clemency arose from a prudence which dictated how unpopular would be the martyrdom of members of so powerful a guild as the Roman College had then become. But the philosophers were too strong, and the order was given that they should execute a statue of Æsculapius or die. They went on with their work in every other direction, but the statue they would not make. At length others were found to obey the Emperor's mandate, and the five were handed over to the tribune Lampadius, who was to try by gentle methods at first, and afterwards by force to get them to recant. The philosophers and other fellow-workmen cried, "Away with the magicians!" The tribune hesitated. Still he would make one more effort. Would they offer sacrifice to the Sun God? No, they served only the God of heaven. Reference was again made to Diocletian, and at last, all efforts failing, they were stripped and beaten with scorpions at the command of Lampadius, who in the same hour expired sitting in his judgment-seat, being torn by an evil spirit.

The news of this violently enraged Diocletian, who, on November 8, had the five shut up in coffins of lead and cast into the Tiber. Forty-two days after one Nichodemus, a Christian, succeeded in recovering the bodies and placed them in his own home. Several months after this Diocletian, returning from Syria, commanded that all the soldiery on coming to the image of Æsculapius should be compelled to offer incense with sacrifice, especially the city militia, when four of the latter body, called Cornicularii, or wing-leaders, took counsel together, and, being Christians, decided not to obey the Emperor's behest. They are said by some to have been not only *milites* (soldiers), but also artificers, and when they resisted Diocletian ordered them to be put to death in front of the image with strokes of the plumbata, or thongs weighted with leaden balls. For five days their bodies lay in the streets, when the blessed Sebastian, with the holy Bishop Melchiades, collected them by night, and buried them on the road to Lavica, three miles from the city, with other holy men in the cemetery. Presumably by this time those other five had been transferred from the home of Nichodemus to their new resting-place in one of the catacombs. The names of the last four were not known until, in the ninth century, they were miraculously discovered through their military rank, and are now given as Severus, Severianus, Carporferus, and Victorianus; and as they died on the same day in November as the former five, but two years later, their festival is commemorated with the others on this day.

Some confusion exists as to which of the two sets of martyrs were the Quatuor Coronati, and even Leader Scott falls, I think, into error on this point, for in the various accounts the methods of their martyrdom are very mixed. The evidence, however, is certainly in favour of the four soldiers who were executed in A.D. 300, and not of the earlier five stone-squarers. Gould says: "Upon the latter [*i.e.*, the soldiers] Pope Melchiades, A.D. 310, bestowed the title of Quatuor Coronati, or Four Crowned Ones, by which they are described in the more ancient missals and other formularies of public devotion, though in connection with the five who are referred to by name and as holy martyrs. Within twelve years of their death, Melchiades founded the original Basilica to their honour, and in the seventh century (622) Pope Honorius I. erected a handsome church, in the form of a basilica, to the memory of the four, out of the ruins of a

temple of Diana on the Cœlian Hill, and in A.D. 847 the then reigning Pope rebuilt it with greater magnificence.

Into this church of the Quatuor Coronati were removed, A.D. 848, the remains of the nine martyrs. They were placed in an oratory beneath the high altar of the church. The four crowned brothers were in two marble sarcophagi, and on either side in two others were disposed the remains of the five, while a very large sarcophagus containing the relics of many others was placed behind them. The crypt under this altar is so dark that it is impossible, without artificial light, to make out clearly the details of the sarcophagi, but there they are to all appearance as above described. The four officers (albeit craftsmen also), instead of the five masons, have become the patron saints of the building trades, while the occupation of the five has survived under the names of the four. The martyrology of Du Saussay, however, claims that the bodies of the five were taken to Toulouse, and of one of them, St. Claudius, we get the memorial to this day in the French name of St. Cloud.

A few words may be permissible here as to the church of the SS. Incoroniti, which not unlikely in the Middle Ages formed the Mecca of the craft-guilds of Europe. It is situated in a somewhat out-of-the-way spot in Rome, not far from the better-known church of St. Clemente. The original church of Honorius, whose altar, as in most early churches, faced the east, being at the west end, was a noble structure, having a long nave with an elevated tribune at the end. Fifteen columns from pagan temples on either side formed the aisles, and supported the gallery above for the nuns who were attached to the church. But in the great fire of 1084 it was destroyed, and in 1111 restored by Pope Paschal II., shorn, however, of its ancient glory. The long nave was shortened by erecting a wall across it from the seventh column, through which the entrance to the church is made. Walls also were built between the columns, and ten new columns were placed in the church to form new aisles, so that the whole width of the present church represents the original width of the older nave only. Over the entrance is a fresco representing the four saints in clouds, all holding palms in their hands, the emblem of martyrdom and victory, and they have bay wreaths on their heads. Below are companies of Augustine Sisters and novices adoring the saints. The pavement is the work of the Cosamati family, and the vault and walls of the tribunal represent in fresco the four saints being scourged and put into leaden coffins (mark again the confusion in the method of martyrdom), a work of the seventeenth century. The roof of cypress has in the centre the four crowned martyrs, all with their working tools in their hands. Further restorations were made in 1624 by Urban VIII.

In the Quadri Porticus Innocent III. (1198-1215) founded a chapel of St. Sylvester, which contains some curious thirteenth-century frescoes of the life of Constantine. From the sixteenth century it has belonged to a guild of marble-cutters, who celebrate Mass on the last Sunday of the month. Over the door is a fresco of the four saints, and the inscription: STATUARIORUM ET LAPICIDARUM CORPUS ANNO MDLXX.

Besides the representations of the Four Crowned Ones already mentioned, there are many in different parts of Italy, but perhaps the most beautiful is the one in the church of St. Michaele at Florence.* This church was that of the trade guilds of Florence, and in the early sixteenth century the Guild of Smiths, Carpenters, and Masons instructed an amateur sculptor, Nanni di Banco, to prepare a niche therein with the figures of their patron saints.

He set to work, achieved a beautiful result, including in the lower part of the design interesting reliefs, showing the four at work, and all went well until he came to put up his statues when he found he could not get them in. Accordingly—so the story goes—he repaired to Donatello, who offered to get him out of his trouble if he would stand him a supper (there is a truly masonic ring about this), and satisfactorily accomplished the feat by literally making the statues to rub shoulders. It is to be hoped his supper was equally satisfactory. In a picture in the Pinacoteca, Perugia, I found a predella showing three scenes in connection with the Coronati, and they are interesting, but again

* See illustration, *ante*, p. 337.

illustrate the extent of confusion which existed in relation to the methods by which the five or the four met their death.

But perhaps the most interesting association to us is the connection between the Quatuor Coronati and England. In his ecclesiastical history, A.D. 619, the Venerable Bede has a chapter headed, "Bishop Mellitus by Prayer quenches a Fire in his City." This city was Canterbury, and the record states that "the church of the four crowned martyrs was the place where the fire raged most." This church survived the fire, and some are of opinion that it was erected about the time of St. Augustine, A.D. 597. If this is so, then this was probably the first Christian edifice erected after the arrival of the Apostle to the English. The dedication would be both significant and remarkable. Others argue that from its having withstood the fire it was more ancient, being of stone, etc. The present church of St. Alphege, built early in the fifteenth century, is supposed to stand on the site.

In the Isabella Missal the four are depicted in a beautiful piece of work, each with a working tool—viz., the square, the plumb-rule, the trowel, and the gavel.

In passing from these four worthies, it may with safety be said they were undoubtedly the patron saints of the most important section of the building communities during the splendour of mediæval operative masonry, and until the period of its decay. We come now to what may be considered the central and most important part of our study, and shifting the scene from Rome—that city of splendour, with its teeming population, many times larger than in the present day, its pomp, luxury, and pride—we find ourselves on a little lonely, but very lovely island, in what is perhaps the most lovely lake in all Europe, the Island of Comacina in the Lake of Como. It is, I believe, the only island the lake possesses, and rising abruptly from its blue-green waters, covered with foliage, all but uninhabited, it rests on the bosom of the lake in spring like an emerald gem.

On every side the shores of the lake slope sharply up and up, rich in foliage of varied tints and plentifully dotted with villages, all picturesque and all teeming with associations of the past in architecture, legend, and old customs, which survive to the present day; while away to the north-east over Bellagio and beyond lie the snow-topped mountains which link on the scene to the great Alpine ranges. To stand on an elevated part of this little island, so near the mainland, yet so far removed from the sound of human voice or industry (its silence, indeed, broken only by the song of birds, a not too common thing in Italy at the present day, however plentiful such may have been in the days of St. Francis), and to look east, west, north, south—whether bathed in glorious sunshine with every detail reflected in the water of the lake as in a mirror, or when the black clouds roll up from the mountains and sweep down upon the lake, the thunder breaking on the stillness and echoing from hill to hill—is a thing not to be forgotten; and then to think of its story, of the past, equally characterized with sunshine and tempest, and the great influence the men of this tiny island exercised on Western Europe, is to realize that here is one of the rare spots where Nature and man have combined to put their indelible mark.

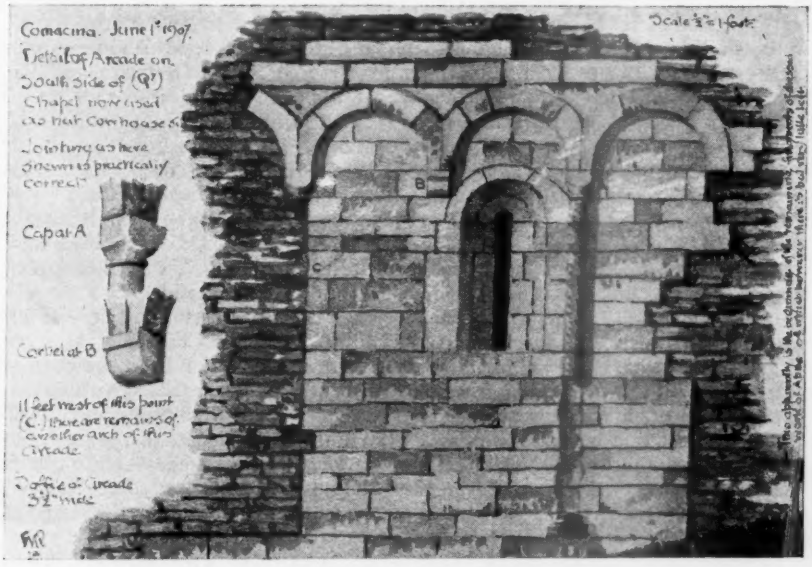
I am indebted to Dr. Santo Monti of Como for some interesting notes he kindly sent me, relating to the island, from which I extract the following: "The isle itself, called Cristopoli by the Longobards, measures about a mile in circumference, and has a long, glorious, and sad history. . . . There were monuments which dated as far back as to the fifth century of our era. Now the island is nearly abandoned, uncultivated, and contains a few vestiges of the old fortifications and the churches. The population of the island must have been extremely numerous then according to the chronicles; the churches thereon were not less than nine (chapels and oratories included). One of them was dedicated to St. Euphemia with a chapter of twelve canons, including Bishop Litigerio, in 1031. Of all these churches only the remnants of three are left. One of them is at the east end of the isle, it has been heightened a story and actually serves as a barn or shed for the cattle; the ancient part of it inside as well as outside is of well-wrought stone, so closely combined (especially inside) that it seems of a single piece. The portion of the outside wall is decorated with semicircular arches alternately supported by 'Mensolac'

and vertical cords, with capitals of cubicular form and square bases. Under the last of these arches there is a window. The church with the north façade finished in two equal absides, with a window towards east in each; outside the choir presents a sole semicircle (which contains the two absides).

"The second remnant, little rising above the earth, is that of a very spacious edifice called the Dome, and the spot where it stood still conserves the name, but no other traces remain of it. Judging by the foundation it must have been solidly constructed. A little

devastated and the church and other buildings destroyed in 1169, the above-named slab was transferred to the opposite shore, where it found a place in the parochial church on the main altar, where it served as a desk thereupon. A few years ago it was taken away and moved into the basis of the said altar, where the inscription can be read without any difficulty."

Dr. Monti concludes from the foregoing and other evidence in his possession that the remains of the churches in the island are previous to the seventh century. It has been



further toward the north are the vestiges of the third, consisting of the choir, which, semicircular in shape, is decorated with the cord design (vertically) composed alternately of stone and 'terra cuite.' The bases of these cords is simple flat stone. The inside of the edifice is filled with débris. In one of these nine churches, probably in the one dedicated to St. Euphemia, there was a marble slab 1·84 × 0·70 metres, in round characters comparatively well executed considering the period. It was in praise of Bishop Agrippino, of the first half of the seventh century. When the island was

my good fortune to pay two visits to this island, the second of which was on Saturday, June 1, 1907, and one was gratified subsequently to learn what Dr. Monti had to say respecting the little sanctuary, the discovery of which occasioned my second visit and subsequent correspondence with him. It should be mentioned, for the information of any who visit the island, that the church now in use at its northern end is a sixteenth-century one, dedicated to St. Giovanni Battista, but it has no special interest.

And who were the masters who lived at Comacina? Mention has already been made of

the survival of the Architectural College in Rome after the other guilds had been suppressed, and to this college probably belonged some at least of the nine martyrs to whom we have been alluding. But when Rome fell under Goth and Vandal, and reached a condition such as is pictured by Gregory the Great, there was no further call for the fraternity in Rome, and, accordingly, about A.D. 460 they, being now entirely Christian, fled, and travelling northwards, settled themselves in the district of Como, choosing for their headquarters the Island of Comacina, where they fortified their position, and in the sixth century held their own against the Lombards for twenty years before being subjugated, while in the twelfth century again they held their independence against Milan and the Lombard league. Documentary evidence, dating back to A.D. 643 refers to them as the Majestri Comacini, and although it is not certain whether this appellation located them on the island or is intended to apply to the district around Como, it is clear that by this time they were a compact and powerful guild, capable of asserting their rights, and that the guild was properly organized, having degrees of different ranks and Magistri at their head. Now, when we consider that during what historians have generally regarded as the Dark Ages, between A.D. 500 and 1200, there was a perfect and consistent link between the old and the new, and a perfect and consistent development of architecture—be it Lombard Byzantine, as at Ravenna and Venice; Romanesque, as at Pisa; Lombard Gothic, as at Milan; Norman Saracen, as in Sicily and the South, each style having its individuality, and yet at the same time its relation to the other—we can form no other conclusion than that to a well-organized body of men such order must be attributed.

Moreover, when we further consider that in the twelfth century the round arch prevailed in Italy, Germany, France, and England, with details having wonderful similarity and practically Lombard in character; that in the thirteenth century, when pointed arches mingled with the round ones in Italy they did so in all the other countries mentioned; and that the art of church building was in full power when other arts and commerce were but just beginning, we are forced to the conclusion that nothing short of a sound organization can have brought about such a result. And our conclusion that to the Comacine Masters are mainly due the mighty achievements spread throughout Western Europe is borne out by fact. To them can be traced the churches of St. Ambrose at Milan, the cathedral at Monza, St. Fidele and St. Abbondio at Como, St. Michael at Pavia, St. Vitale at Ravenna, St. Agnese, St. Lorenzo, St. Clemente and others at Rome, as well as the more ornate cathedrals of Pisa, Lucca, Milan, Arezzo, Brescia, etc., and the cloisters and aisles of Monreale and Palermo. Through the Comacines architecture and sculpture spread to France and Spain, Germany and England, and there developed into new and varied styles, according to the exigencies of climate, material, etc. It was from these brethren at Como that Gregory sent artificers to England to accompany St. Augustine, and Gregory II. sent such to Germany with Boniface, while Charlemagne fetched them into France to build his church of Aix la Chapelle, the prototype of French Gothic.

It is really wonderful how little seems to be known of these Comacine Masters, and, indeed, until Leader Scott drew attention to them, what little was known appears to have been confined to a small circle. This is what the late Charles Kingsley says in his lecture on the Roman and the Teuton (1891): "Then follow some curious laws in favour of the Masters of Como, Magistri Comacenes, perhaps the original germ of the great society of Freemasons, belonging, no doubt, to the Roman population who were settled about the Lake of Como, and were hired on contract (as the laws themselves express) to build for the Lombards, who, of course, had no skill to make anything beyond a skin tent or a log hall."

Mr. T. G. Jackson, R.A., in his review of *Le Origini dell' Architettura Lombarda* (*Architectural Review* for August, 1907) says: "Signor Riviora traces a reminiscence of the old Etruscan art which preceded that of Rome, coexisted for a long time with it, and to which there is good reason to think Roman art owed a much larger share of its peculiar character than has been generally admitted.

"In Germany it is recorded that Bishop Rufus of Treves brought artificers from Italy to repair his cathedral—possibly among them were members of the mysterious Guild of Magistri Comacini, of whom so little is known with exactitude."

There is indeed so little known with exactitude, but a great deal may be, and, indeed, chapter and verse can be given for a large part of what we claim for the Comacines. We have already noted that they were called into England, Germany, and France, and there is no reason to doubt that to a very large extent, whenever some building of importance was wanted in Western Europe one of the lodges of Comacines was applied to. The notion so common amongst us that the great cathedral and church builders were the ecclesiastics may be true in the sense that they promoted these works, but that they were the chief architects, except in rare instances, cannot be borne out by the facts of the case. Doubtless some were admitted to the Guilds of Craftsmen as lay members, while others qualified as architects, but in the main skilled and properly organized workmen were called in. They were even summoned back to Rome, and, indeed, their hand is to be found in all the great buildings of the ages between A.D. 500 and 1200, and in many after that.

A really good illustration of this it fell to my lot to find. The interesting church of S. Ambrogio at Milan has a very fine atrium, and on the outside there is a tablet with this inscription:

AVSPERTO DA BIOSSONE
ARCIVESCOVO DU MILAN.
DAL DCCCLXVIII AL DCCCLXXXI.
ERESE QVEST ATRIO.

Which in English reads, "Auspert of Bissone, Archbishop of Milan from 868 to 881, built this atrium." But Leader Scott says, Look amongst the foliage and you will find the real name of the architect, "Magister Adam." So on two occasions I did look with all the care I could bring, and, notwithstanding two of the custodians of the church, one of whom had been there for forty years, told me there was no such person as Magister Adam concerned with the building, but that Auspert built the atrium, my search at the last moment, and just as I was giving it up as vain, was rewarded, not where Leader Scott said exactly, but not far off. There on the top of one of the shafts of the main entrance to the church were the letters indeed, "Magister Adam," but *upside down.**

It was no small pleasure to fetch one of the men who had denied Magister Adam's connection with the church, and to see the undisguised surprise with which he regarded my discovery, and the truly amusing way in which he reluctantly abandoned his scepticism. But this is only one case among many—for instance, on a monument in St. Maria in Trastivere one reads the name of "Magister Paulus," and I quite believe that careful research would demonstrate the custom of calling in the guild to prepare the design as well as to execute the work. Moreover, it is a significant thing that, after the removal of the lodge of Lucca to Florence, on December 14, 1321, no great work in architecture arose either in Lucca, Pistoja or Pisa, while all the great Florentine buildings date after this time.

(*To be concluded.*)

In a Wiltshire Village: Some Old Songs and Customs.

By E. E. Balch.

> What custom wills, in all things should we do 't
> The dust on antique time would lie unswept,
> And mountainous error be too highly heap'd
> For truth to o'er-peer.
>
> *Coriolanus* ii. 3.

A WILTSHIRE village, six miles from the nearest railway station, and so hidden from the high-road that few motorists discover it, might be thought safe from the incoming tide of modern innovation. And outwardly, indeed, Stourton has changed very little since Hazlitt wrote of it nearly seventy years ago:

"After passing the park-gate, which is a beautiful and venerable relic, you descend into Stourton by a sharp winding declivity,

* See illustration, *ante*, p. 336.

almost like going underground, between high hedges of laurel trees, and with an expanse of woods and water spread beneath.

"It is a sort of rural Herculaneum, a subterranean retreat. The inn is like a modernized guard-house; the village church stands on a lawn without any enclosure; a row of cottages facing it, with their whitewashed walls and flaunting honeysuckles, are neatness itself. Everything has an air of elegance, and yet tells a tale of other times.

"It is a place that might be held sacred to stillness and solitary musing!"

Yet old customs disappear rapidly even here; and with the dust of ignorance and folly are swept away some better things. Not to be regretted least is the spirit which was not ashamed to play; which found its pleasure among its neighbours, and at its own door, before the age of cheap excursions and entertainments. Amateur theatricals and penny readings are doubtless excellent, yet one may question whether the old mumming play did not make for more simple and genuine merriment. This play was handed on by word of mouth, never, I think, written; and the small company of actors guarded their rights jealously. There were seven characters: Father Christmas, the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, Captain Curly from the Isle of Wight, Doctor Finley, Johnnie Jack, and Bighead, or "Girthead."

Father Christmas acted the part of chorus, opening with a speech in which he hinted broadly at the wishes of the mummers:

> I hope your pocket is full of money,
> And I hope your cellar is full of beer,
> And I hope I shall get a little
> 'fore I go from here.

The characters entered one by one, and each introduced the next by the invitation "So walk in, —— !"

The Duchess was a lady of domesticated habits, singularly free from pride of rank, for she entered next, carrying a broom:

> Here comes I, Miss Duchess, with my broom,
> broom, broom,
> To sweep the room clean for the Duke and the
> Captain to have room for to fight.

The part was of course taken by a boy, resplendent in a long-trained dress.

The fight followed on a truculent dialogue between the Duke and Captain Curly. (One wonders what principle of selection determined the localities from which these gentlemen arrived. Were Northumberland and the Isle of Wight the most remote which readily occurred to the mummers?)

> *Duke.* Here is the Duke, the Duke of Northumberland,
> With my broad sword in hand.
> Where is the man? I bid him stand.
> I'll cut him in humerus, and as small as a fly;
> I'll send him to the cook-shop for to make mince-pie.
> So walk in, Captain.
> *Captain.* Here comes the Captain, Captain Curly!
> Duke, I heard your voice from out the chimney.
> *Duke.* Pray, what did you hear, Captain Curly?
> *Captain.* I heard the challenge of Captain Curly.
> Here comes I, so light as a fly;
> But I've no money, but what cares I!
> Here comes I from the Isle of Wight,
> Unto the Duke of Northumberland;
> Here comes I to fight.
> So mind yourself, and guard your blows;
> Off comes your head, if not your nose!

After the Duke has been wounded, and duly dosed by Doctor Finley, there entered the most interesting character—the most interesting because the least obvious—Johnnie Jack. He carried a number of small dolls on his back:

> Here comes I, little Johnnie Jack,
> With my wife and family at my back.
> My wife's so big, my family's so small,
> If I hadn't come when I had
> I'd have starved them all.
> Out of five I saved but one;
> All the rest is dead and gone.
> So, ladies and gentlemen, have pity on me,
> Poor Johnnie Jack, and his great wife and he.

No amount of questioning elicits any explanation of the origin of this character, or of the dolls at his back; but behind the burlesque figure and the doggerel lines there surely lurks the dim hero of some forgotten legend.

Lastly comes Bighead:

> Here comes I, that's never been yet,
> With my big head, and little wit.
> My head's so big, my wit so small,
> I've brought my fiddle to please you all.

And the mumming ended in a country dance.

The humour throughout was of the broadest description—as, for instance, the cry of Captain Curly:

The Duke is wounded to his heart.
Five hundred pounds I *wouldn't* put down
If a noble doctor can be found.

Or the claim of the doctor:

I'll cure the hickly, pickly palsy, or the gout.
I'll cure old Jack Daw with the toothache,
Or old Mag-Pie with the headache.
Captain. Pray, how do you do that, Mr. Finley?
Doctor. By twisting their heads off, and sending their bodies into ditch.

Proof of the antiquity of the play is to be found in the presence of some words which have been mangled till they have lost all meaning, but which are faithfully repeated. Thus the Duke:

I'll cut him into *humerus*.

Quite distinct from the mummers, though also coming on Christmas Eve, was the Christmas bull. The head of a bull with great bottle eyes, large horns, and lolling tongue, was manipulated by a man stooping inside a body composed of a broomstick, a hide of sacking, and a rope tail. The bull knocked at the door with its horns, and, if allowed to enter, chased the young people round the house, with fearsome curvets and bellowings. Even in the surrounding parishes the Christmas bull is unknown, and I have never heard of the custom being practised in other parts of the country. The man in whose possession the bull was until quite recently, knows that it has been in his family for over one hundred years. It was used till about ten years ago.

On Old Christmas Eve came the wassailers with their traditional song:

Wassail, wassail!
All round the town!
Your cup is so white,
And your beer is so brown.

Missus and master,
Now we are come here,
Give us a cup
Of your best Christmas beer.

Chorus.

For it's our wassail,
And a jolly wassail,
And joy be to you,
For it's our wassail.

Pretty little maiden,
With your silver lace,
Open wide your hall-doors
And show us your face.

Pretty little maiden,
With your silver pin,
Open wide your hall-doors
And let us all in.

Missus and master,
A-sitting by the fire,
And we poor sinners
A-dabbing in the mire.

Missus and master,
If you be so willing,
Send out your youngest son
With the round shilling.

Missus and master,
We must be gone,
God bless you all
Till we come again!

The wassailing serves as a link between the jollities connected with Christmas and those which cluster round the agricultural festivals; though the custom of wassailing the apple-trees, which, I believe, survives in Devonshire, has disappeared here.

Such festivities, which mark the ingathering of the fruits of the earth, naturally loom larger in the rustic mind than any dates fixed merely by the calendar. Even the smaller fruits are honoured with a special day, such as Gooseberry Sunday, and "Hart" or Bilberry Sunday; and certain woods and hamlets are marked out by their abundant fruitage as objects of pilgrimage on those days. The unloading of the last waggon of hay is celebrated by a "sing-song" round the rick in the long summer twilight; and the harvest-supper still follows the corn harvest on those farms where its place has not been taken by extra harvest-money. These are the occasions when quaint old country songs may be heard. The history of "Bold Renard" wanders through many verses, from the time when he disturbs the slumbers of "old Mother Wibble-Wobble," till his children pick the bones of the grey goose "without fork or a knife." The fox in Froude's *Cat's Pilgrimage* has not a greater contempt for human antagonism than has Sir Renard, for when the farmer "blew his horn both loud and shrill," he regards it only as an additional triumph to his progress with the grey goose—

And the music played me down through the town O!

"The Ploughboy" may be quoted as a typical song:

So early one morning,
Just by the brink of day,
The cocks they was crowing,
The farmer he did say:
"Rise up, my good fellows!
Your horses want something
Before they go to plough."
And we jumped out of bed,
And slipped on our clo',
And into the stable
We merrily did flow;
And, rubbing and scrubbing,
I'll swear and I'll vow
As we're all jolly fellows
That follow the plough.

When six o'clock came
To breakfast we go.
With good bread and cheese,
And the best of stinged ale,
We're trying our pockets to fill.
I'll swear and I'll vow
As we're all jolly fellows
That follow the plough.

Then we harness our horses,
To plough we do go;
We'll strip across the plain,
With our hands in our pockets,
Like gentlemen do go—
See who the best furrow can draw.
I'll swear and I'll vow
As we're all jolly fellows
That follow the plough.

And the farmer came round,
And 'twas he did say:
"What have you been doing
This long summer's day?
Why, you've not ploughed an acre!
I'll swear and I'll vow
That you're all lazy fellows
That follow the plough."

Then the little ploughboy
Turned round to reply:
"What have you been saying?
'Tis a big lie!
For we have ploughed an acre,
I'll swear and I'll vow;
So we're all jolly fellows
That follow the plough."

And the farmer turned round,
With a smile and a joke:
"As 'tis just four o'clock,
Why, 'tis time to unyoke!
Unharness your horses,
And rub them down well;
I'll give you one jug
Of my best brown ale."
I'll swear and I'll vow
That we're all jolly fellows
That follow the plough.

Hardy, rough, and hearty were the men who used to sing such songs as these. A softer generation may well listen to the stories they can tell before they altogether sink into silence:

"I were on hauling wood from up Penselwood for the sleepers when they were bringing the railway down a-b'low Salisbury. Six shillings a week I got, but I were three nights a week on the road. When I were married I got seven shillings a week. That were all my father ever got, and he had eight of us young 'uns. Ay, we lived in thic cottage a-top of the hill—three rooms there are in it. I allus lived in Stourton—came to work at the mill here on my twenty-first birthday. I'm seventy now, been here ever since; but I be main rough—my breath be so bad, and I'll have to give up soon. Schooling? I went to old Sally Green's for about a year, but I went to work before I were nine. I can make shift to read a bit, but I can't write. Ay, they was hard times—too hard. Folk don't know nothing about it now."

Superstition, curious and sometimes cruel, linger, too, in unswept corners where the dust of ignorance still lies. In the year of grace 1904 an old woman in a neighbouring village believed herself to have been "overlooked." She cast about for means of deliverance from the black magic, and revenge on the perpetrator of the outrage. A bullock's heart was procured, and thickly stuck with pins; then, as night drew on, the fire was made up, and the heart set to roast. All night long the witch-ridden victim sat watching, and as each pin dropped from its place she rejoiced that a pin pierced the heart of the evil eye.

Critics have said of *Thrawn Janet* that "it is true, only historically true, for a hill parish in Scotland in old days—not true for mankind and the world"; yet, as one chances upon such an incident as that told above, one feels that the spirit of the tale is only too true for many of our English villages in the twentieth century, though the insight and word-mastery of a Stevenson are needed to make it known.



THE CROSSING FROM THE TRIFORIUM.

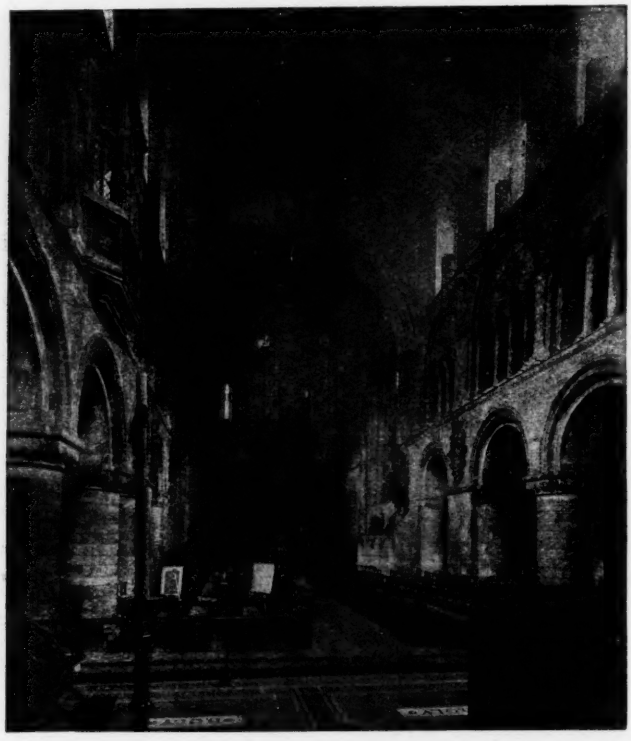
St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield.*

"THE existing church," said Mr. J. H. Parker in a lecture delivered in St. Bartholomew's Church, July 13, 1863, "consists of the choir and aisles only, and yet it is one of the most valuable and interesting buildings in England in several points of view—ecclesiastically, as one of the earliest churches of the Austin Canons in England; architectually, as showing the construction of a church in the time of Henry I., before the usual English fashion of a square east end had been introduced, or possibly just at the time when the change was taking place; and historically, as a building of well-ascertained date, and therefore one of the landmarks of a most important, but much neglected, part of our history—our architecture."

* *The Priory Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield.* By George Worley. With forty-two illustrations. London: *George Bell and Sons*, 1908. 8vo., pp. xii, 84. Price 1s. 6d. net. The illustrative blocks used are kindly lent by the publishers.

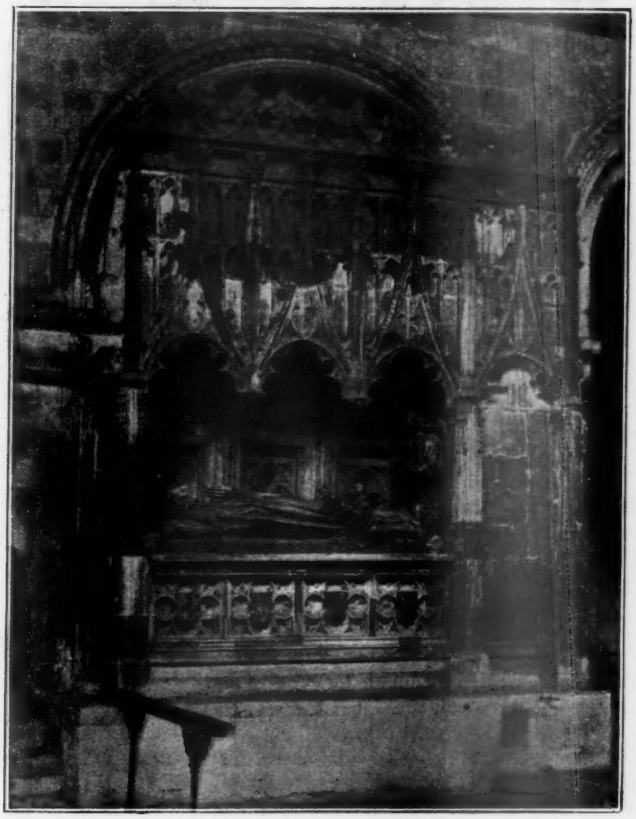
Londoners are not nearly so familiar as they ought to be with the famous Smithfield church, the claims of which to attention were summed up with such admirable succinctness by Mr. Parker. But it may be hoped that the publication of Mr. Worley's useful and carefully prepared little book will do much to make them realize the value and importance of the ancient church, which its recent Rectors have striven so bravely to rescue from a deplorable state of decay and disrepair, desecration and misuse, and to reinstate in something like its earlier grandeur. It is an extraordinary story which Mr. Worley has to tell in his earlier pages. From the dissolution of the Priory until 1823, when Mr. Philip Hardwick began some works of timely repair and judicious restoration, and in many respects for long years afterwards, the condition of the buildings showed neglect and desecration.

The Lady Chapel was filled with tenements; the remaining part of the eastern cloister was used as stabling for horses; the "site of the north cloister was occupied by a blacksmith's forge, a publichouse, and certain private offices"; other parts of the cloister were covered by coach-houses and stores; timber was stored beneath what was left of the Chapter House; the ruined, roofless south transept was used as a burial-ground; another building was a storeroom for hops; the triforium openings being bricked up, parts of the triforium itself were used as a day-school and as a fringe factory respectively. This brief statement is not exhaustive, but it will give an idea of the Augean stable which those who undertook



INTERIOR FROM THE EAST, SHOWING PRIOR BOLTON'S GALLERY.

in earnest the work of restoration had to attack. The main work was really begun in 1863 by the then Rector, the late Rev. John Abbiss, and was continued by his successors, the Rev. William Panckridge and the Rev. Sir J. Borradaile Savory, Bart., the latter supervising and seeing the completion of an extraordinary amount of valuable work. In its founding by Rahere in 1123 to the Dissolution in 1539, and an account of the destruction and desecration which befell the Priory buildings in the years that immediately followed the Dissolution, and in the succeeding centuries, with an outline of the restoration work carried out since 1863. The next forty pages contain a careful description of both



THE FOUNDER'S TOMB.

the main the work has been wisely restricted to the restoration to the venerable church of such portions of the buildings as had been wrested and degraded to unecclesiastical purposes, and to such rebuilding as was incidental to such conservative restoration.

In the first twenty-two pages of his book Mr. Worley gives in summary form a history of the Priory of St. Bartholomew-the-Great from the exterior and interior of the fabric as now cleansed, repaired, and, where necessary, rebuilt, with detailed accounts of the monuments and special features. The illustrations, many of which are from photographs, with some from old engravings, and the plan of the existing church, are of the greatest value in explaining the text, and in enabling the reader to realize both the glories of the remain-

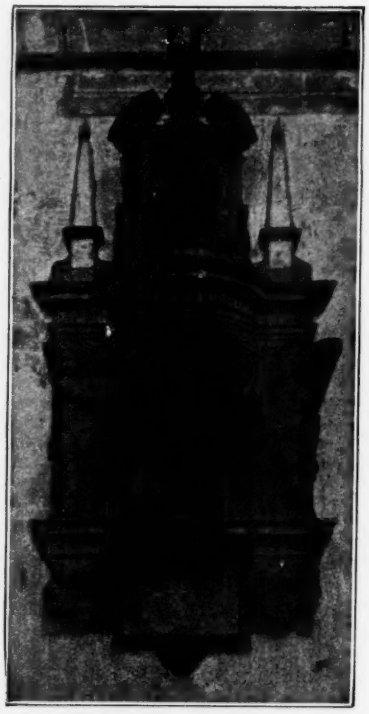
ing original Norman work and the judicious nature of the long and laborious work of repair and rebuilding.

The first illustration shows the crossing from the triforium.

The modern organ-screen—the instrument being carried on a gallery against the west wall—separates from the body of the church the surviving bay of the nave, which serves as a vestibule. It will be observed that the choir-stalls are arranged in the space within the old central tower, the seats for the congregation, facing each other, being carried along towards the east. This view shows well the tower arches—those on the north and south pointed, and much narrower than the others, which are boldly semicircular. Mr. Worley thinks that the north and south arches were altered when the tower was rebuilt in the fifteenth century.

In the central bay of the south triforium is the oriel window, known as Prior Bolton's window or gallery, which is shown in the second illustration. It was probably inserted about 1530. The Prior's well-known rebus, the device of a "bolt in tun," appears boldly carved on the central of the five square, sculptured panels on the face of the gallery, which probably formed a convenient private pew for the Prior. From it he commanded the whole of the choir and the founder's tomb. The Bolton rebus, as Mr. Worley points out, can also be seen in the spandrels of the arch of the Tudor doorway which now opens into the choir vestry at the east end of the south wall.

The founder's tomb, which the Prior could see from his elevated chamber, is shown in the third illustration. It occupies the usual position in a bay on the north side of the sanctuary. Another view, taken from an old engraving, given on p. 46 of the book, shows that the arcaded work formerly continued to the right of the tomb as now seen over a doorway now removed. It is probable that the tomb originally formed part of a fourteenth-century screen, behind which was a chantry chapel built by Roger de Walden, the portion of the screen now missing having been destroyed when the modern Norman apse was constructed. The shields of arms on the four quatrefoil panels in front, below the painted effigy, were discussed by Mr. Tavenor-Perry in the *Antiquary* for April last (pp. 147-149). Mr. Worley describes the arms on the fourth panel as those of Sir Stephen Slaney, Lord Mayor of London in 1595, and does not seem to be aware of the good reasons there are, as set forth by Mr. Tavenor-Perry, for believing that this fourth shield really bears the arms of Bishop Roger de Walden, the founder of the chantry chapel and the builder of the tomb.



THE CHAMBERLAYNE MONUMENT.

Our fourth illustration shows the well-sculptured monument of Sir Robert Chamberlayne, on the wall above the pulpit. The pulpit, by the way, of Hopton Wood stone, is modern, and was built from a bequest of £600 made to the restoration fund by the pew-opener of the church, Mrs. Charlotte Hart, who was supposed to be as impecunious as most of her fraternity, but who surprised everyone by dying worth nearly £3,000! The Chamberlayne monument is

"an elegant piece of Jacobean work, deserving a closer examination than can be bestowed upon it without mounting the pulpit, and even there the inscription is scarcely legible." This inscription relates Sir Robert's descent from the ancient Tankerville family of Normandy, and tells us that he was knighted by James I., and died between Tripoli and Cyprus, on a journey to the Holy Sepulchre, aged thirty-five, in the year 1615.

The last chapter of Mr. Worley's book contains a brief account, with several illustrations and a plan, of the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less, orginally the chapel of the hospital. Appendixes contain a description, with illustrations, of the priory seals; a list of the Augustinian Priors from Rahere (1123), and of their successors, to the present Rector, the Rev. W. F. C. Sandwith, M.A.; an inventory of the vestments, etc., of the church, taken in 1574, which shows how meagre a supply had been left by the despoilers; and a description of the organ. An index completes a useful and handy volume, whose right to a place in the supplement to the "Cathedral Series" no one is likely to dispute.

J. H. M.

The Sedia Balneare of the Vatican.

By J. Tavenor-Perry.

THE Gabinetto delle Maschere of the Vatican Galleries, which is so named from its beautiful marble mosaic pavement decorated with masks and brought from the villa of Hadrian at Tivoli, is closed to the general public; and to get access to it a very special permission is required. The reason for this secrecy is not immediately obvious to the privileged visitor, since the Venus Accouacciata, which is enniched on the one side of it, is not more nude than are others of her sisterhood in Rome, and the Faun, which occupies the opposite niche, displays no more *abandon* than does his brother of the Capitol, and it is only when the guide points out a slab of marble, the original purpose of which is very clear, and gives some clue to its history, that the reason for such privacy becomes apparent.

This slab is a thick piece of very beautiful *rosso antico*, and, although described in the guide-books of Murray, Nibby and Baedeker as a bathing-chair, is neither more nor less than the seat of an ancient latrine, and would be better distinguished under its Italian name of *sedia forata*, or the perforated seat. This utensil is not preserved in the Vatican museum merely as an object of curiosity, or on account of the value of the marble, great though that is; but rather for the historical associations with which it is connected. Unfortunately, around its true history a large amount of fable and unpleasant legend has accumulated, and many find it difficult sometimes to separate the facts from the fiction. Hence, no doubt with a desire to give no occasion to any to blaspheme, but little notice is taken of it in any guide to the Vatican Galleries. But as this seat once played an important part in the affairs of mediæval Rome, a succinct account of its history may be of interest; while for the legendary stories connected with it sufficient hints will be found in the pages of Hare, Gregorovius and others.

The suspicion engendered in many minds by these slanderous stories has caused some doubt as to whether there be any truth at all in the account which has been preserved of this seat; and therefore, to clear away such suspicion, an authoritative statement is given in the following quotation, which is particularly valuable as it epitomizes the account which we shall give from another author later on. This quotation is taken from the second edition of a valuable work entitled *Le Chiese di Roma dal secolo IV. al XIX.*, written by Mariano Armellini, printed at the Vatican Press in 1891, and dedicated to his Holiness Pope Leo XIII.; the authority, therefore, of the statement is unimpeachable. It is to be found on p. 96, and occurs in a description of the Basilica Lateranense, and runs thus: "In quel luogo era pure la celebre sedia balneare, oggi nel museo vaticano, di rosso antico, appellata *stercoraria*, sulla quale sedia il pontefice nell' atto

dell' intronizzazione, e che prese quel nome perchè il coro durante la funzione cantava il versetto: *Suscitans a terra inopem et de stercore erigens pauperem ;*" and he continues, in reference to one of the legends to which the use of this particular seat gave rise: "A ridicole fiabe, parto dell' ignoranza e della malvagità, dette origine quella sedia, le quali non meritano neppure l' onore delle confutazione."

The term *sedia balneare* used for this seat by Armellini, and generally adopted by the guide-books, seems to be somewhat meaningless. No such seat formed any part of the apparatus of the ancient baths, and the only suggestion which can be offered for such employment is that it was discovered on the site of one of the great thermæ. Hare, in his *Walks in Rome*, says, but without quoting any authority for his statement, that it was found near the Lateran; but this, as there were no great baths anywhere in that immediate neighbourhood, makes the appellation the more unsuitable. There are, however, standing in the cloisters of the Lateran three cathedræ or arm-chairs of red marble which Professor Lanciani says were discovered in the Baths of Caracalla, and there is the possibility that this seat was found with them, and thus obtained its somewhat euphemistic designation.

The best account of the ceremonies with which the Sella was associated will be found in the fifth volume of Gregorovius' *History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages;* but it must be mentioned that, as the works of this eminent historian were placed on the "Index," Catholic writers are apt to regard his history with a suspicion which is quite unnecessary. That the ecclesiastical censure was only directed to the opinions he expressed, and not to the facts which he related, seems evident, since Armellini himself quotes Gregorovius as an authority for some of his own statements. But the account we here give is divested of all references to the fables which were associated with the seat, and, except that it is a little more detailed, is strictly in accordance with the authorized version we have already quoted.

The description of the coronation procession of Lothar, who on February 22, 1198, was consecrated in St. Peter's, and who assumed the title of Innocent III., gives a view of the ceremonial use, at that early date, of this seat. "Advancing across the forums and through the triumphal arches of Septimius Severus and Titus, the procession skirted the Colosseum, and reached the piazza of the Lateran. Here the clergy of the Lateran received the Pope with solemn song. They conducted him to the portico, where he took his seat on an ancient marble chair, the *sella stercoraria*. This symbolic ceremony of the deepest abasement of the supreme Head of Christendom on a seat bearing such a name is perhaps the most curious custom of the Middle Ages, a custom which we can only now contemplate with a smile. Cardinals, however, hastened to raise the Holy Father from the inappropriate seat, with the comforting words of Scripture, 'He taketh up the simple out of the dust, and lifteth the poor out of the mire.'"

Thus far only goes historical truth. Of the many legends which sprang up in the Dark Ages in connection with this seat, the one which Armellini so justly describes as "a ridicole fiabe" has been the subject of very many dissertations, particularly during the period following the Reformation, the last of which appears to have been Dr. Döllinger's *Die Päpstin Johanna*, published in Munich in 1863. But as such tales are outside the pale of fact, we will refer to them no further.

The seat continued in ceremonial use until the sixteenth century, and the brilliant representative of the House of Medici, Leo X., was the last Pope to sit upon it. After two centuries of disuse, Pius VI. commendably, having regard to its historical associations, had it removed to the Vatican Museum, and, remembering its peculiar origin, relegated it to the sequestered cabinet in which it still remains, and where its solitude is shared in incongruous companionship with the Crouching Venus and the Dancing Faun.

At the Sign of the Owl.



I AM glad to see that the resuscitated *Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society* is still "going strong." In the first part of the second volume, dated July, there are several important contributions to Gypsy lore. These include a paper on "The Tarot," by Mr. de l'Hoste Ranking, illustrated by a plate of modern Schaffhausen tarot cards and a number of cuts of tarot keys, reduced from plates in de Gebelin's *Monde Primitif*, 1781; a paper in French on "L'Étude Anthropologique des Tsiganes," by Dr. Pittard; a collection of 200 words gathered by Mr. A. Byhan from two gypsies at Jassy, Moldavia; and a further instalment of "Welsh Gypsy Folk-Tales," collected and edited by Mr. John Sampson, and printed in Romani and in translation. The number also contains five vigorous sketches of Transylvanian Gypsies from the pencil of Mr. Joseph Pennell.

The outgoing president of the Society, Mr. David MacRitchie, in a valedictory notice, remarks that the present membership far exceeds the maximum attained in the Society's early days, but appeals for a further large increase in subscribing members. "A society formed for the purpose of rescuing to Science a mass of information which would be otherwise lost irretrievably," he remarks, "has special claims upon all thinking men." The *Journal* in its new form is certainly ably conducted, and both by the new material it is printing and by its able critical and historical articles is doing good service in the philological and anthropological fields.

The new president, who is also president of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, is Mr. Henry Thomas Crofton, whose name as a Gypsy scholar is well known. Jointly with the late Dr. Bath C. Stewart, of Manchester, he published in 1875 *The Dialect of the English Gypsies*, a scientific study of the English variety of Romani. It contains a grammar, copious vocabularies (Romani-English and English-Romani), together with original dialogues, tales, and translations, illustrative of the manners, customs, and dialect, of the English Gypsies. Since the publication of this remarkable study Mr. Crofton has contributed many papers on Gypsy history, costume, and bibliography, and on general antiquarian subjects, to scientific periodicals and to the transactions of the Lancashire learned societies.

Mr. W. A. Dutt sends to the *Journal* a curious bit of Romani lore. He writes that his little Gypsy friend, Lila West, has been telling him about the *mulo-mush* who sometimes taps on the outside of the vans at night, and laughs in a way that "makes you cold as death." "You never see it," she says, "though you know it is near you; and if you pay no heed to it, you take no harm. You must never say anything bad about it, or something bad will happen to you!"

The *Athenæum* remarks that bibliographers will be glad to hear that an exhaustive *catalogue raisonné* of the fine library of Mr. E. Dwight Church, one of the most interesting collections in America, is to be issued by Messrs. Dodd, Mead and Co. It is to be in five portions, which will extend to 2,635 pages; it will not only contain full particulars of each work in Mr. Church's collection, but will also give references to various other editions, and form a sort of census of the copies to be found in about fifty libraries in the United States. The edition of the catalogue is to be limited to 150 copies. The library is especially rich in Americana. Thus, there are four editions of Columbus's "Letter" announcing the discovery of the New World; of his account of his first voyage there are four in Latin, one in Italian (supposed to be unique), and one in German; while there are nineteen editions of the Vespuccius letters.

In my second note last month I mentioned the recent acquisition by the British Museum Manuscript Department of the collection of Latin shorthand symbols, the invention of which is attributed to Cicero's freedman, Tiro. A good illustration of two pages of this curious Lexicon Tironianum appeared in

the *Illustrated London News* of August 22. The exact antiquity of shorthand symbols is unknown. Tiro, although often credited with the invention of the signs which go by his name, probably simply improved on earlier systems. The same page of the *Illustrated London News* contained illustrations of two other recent interesting additions to the Museum. One is a Greek "hornbook," a wooden ruled tablet with the exercises of Greek schoolboys in Egypt, of the date A.D. 300; the other is a wooden book, with Greek grammatical rules, used in Greek schools in Egypt at the same date.

In an article in *Country Life* of September 5, on "The Parliamentary Journals of Ireland, 1613-1800," Sir Edward Sullivan, Bart., remarks: "One of the most remarkable series of magnificently bound books in existence to-day is to be found in a corner of one of our public departments, where one would never dream of looking for anything of the kind without having been specially directed to the spot." The books are those described in the title of the article, and their place of repose is the Public Record Office of Ireland, at the Four Courts, Dublin. They contain the original fair manuscript copies of the Journals of the Irish Houses of Parliament, and as such are important State records. But Sir Edward Sullivan's article was not written to draw attention to the historical value of the contents of these volumes, but to describe the glories of their outer coverings. The books were bound in Dublin by Dublin binders from time to time during the period 1613-1800, so that, as Sir Edward points out, they may be regarded "as presenting an accurate historical picture of artistic bookbinding of the most elaborate kind in Ireland through nearly two centuries." The article is illustrated by fine reproductions of eight of these most sumptuous bindings; but these, we are told, give but a faint idea of the splendour of the originals, "on most of which mosaic inlaying is made use of for the purpose of adding to the general decorative effect or intensifying some particular feature in the design." The article is well worth the attention of readers interested in the bibliopegic art—what bookman is not?—though some will feel pangs of envy when they read that the most elaborate of these splendid bindings was charged for at no higher rate than £6 a volume.

The publishers' autumn announcements contain a good many books likely to interest antiquaries. In Messrs. Methuen's list I notice the appetizing announcement of a book on *The Old Time Parson*, by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A., a companion volume to that entertaining work, *The Parish Clerk*, by the same author. Mr. Ditchfield's chief difficulty will surely be a superabundance of material. A new volume in the admirable series of "The Antiquary's Books" will be *The Gilds and Companies of London*, by Mr. George Unwin, covering the whole development of London gilds from Saxon times to the eighteenth century. There is a vast amount of matter available on the subject, and Mr. Unwin has an excellent opportunity to provide the student with a useful guide. Among other books of antiquarian interest promised by the Methuens I may name *Wells and Glastonbury*, by Mr. T. Scott Holmes, one of the "Ancient Cities" series; *Chaucer's England*, by Mr. G. G. Coulton; and *Dante in English Literature*, by Dr. Paget Toynbee. In this last-named book Dr. Toynbee traces the references to Dante in English writers from the date of Chaucer's *Troilus and Cressida* (*c.* 1380) down to the death of Cary in 1844, in which year also appeared the last revised edition of Cary's famous translation of the *Divina Commedia*. The number of English authors who make mention of Dante, or quote his works, during this period of 470 years amounts to close on 600, among whom are to be found most of the greatest names in English literature. The work therefore will contribute a novel and interesting chapter to English literary history.

In a long list of promised publications to be issued by the Oxford University Press, I notice several important books. One is a new issue of Stow's *Survey of London*, edited, with an introduction and notes, by Mr. C. L. Kingsford; and another, by Mr. Walter Johnson, bears the suggestive title of *Folk-Memory; or, The Continuity of British Archæology*. I also note *Fonts in English Churches*, by Mr. Francis Bond; *Welsh*

Mediæval Law, by Mr. A. W. Wade Evans, and *Notes on the Early History of the Vulgate Gospels*, by Dom John Chapman, O.S.B. To the "Stuart and Tudor Library," which recommends itself to book-lovers by fine printing and charming *format*, several additions are to be made, including Turberville's *Noble Arte of Venerie*. Messrs. Macmillan promise, among other books, Dr. James Gairdner's *Lollardy and the Reformation in England*, in two volumes; *Herculaneum, Past, Present and Future*, by Dr. C. Waldstein; and *The Acropolis of Athens*, by Professor Martin L. D'Ooge. A forthcoming book announced by Mr. Heinemann, *The Fijians: a Study of the Decay of Custom*, by Mr. Basil Thomson, should be of interest to folk-lorists.

The second of Dr. Copinger's seven volumes on the *History of the Manors of Suffolk* has just been issued to subscribers. The work deals with 187 manors in the Hundreds of Blything, Bosmere, and Claydon. Suckling treated a portion of the Hundred of Blything, but no history of the remaining portion or of Bosmere and Claydon has ever appeared. The work is privately printed, and limited to 150 sets, of which 128 have already been taken up. It is hoped to issue a volume every three months.

BIBLIOTHECARY.

Antiquarian News.

[*We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.*]

PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

THE latest publications of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society include two numbers—xlviii. and xlix.—of the *Proceedings* (Deighton, Bell and Co.; price 5s. net and 2s. 6d. net respectively); and the *Catalogue of the Exhibition of Portraits and Cambridge Caricatures to* 1840, held last May and June (price 1s.). The latter is a useful record of a show the interest and success of which should encourage the Society to further effort in the same direction. The *Proceedings* contain many communications, long and short, on a great variety of topics, ranging from Neolithic Dewponds to the Morning Star Ceremony of the Pawnee. The authors include many well-known names. The outstanding paper is "Herculaneum," by Professor Hughes. It contains a summary of all that is known of the overwhelming of the city, and a masterly analysis of the results of the disaster, of the present state of the area, of the conditions under which exploratory work can be done, and of the probable results. The paper is illustrated by a map and a plan, and deserves attentive study.

Vol. v., part ii., of the *Saga Book of the Viking Club* is a capital number. It contains a variety of notes and short articles, many of which will interest archæologists outside the "Viking" circle. Among such are Professor Gustafson's "Notes on a Decorated Bucket from the Oseberg Find," illustrated by two fine plates; "The Viking Raft or Pontoon Bridge," discovered in Lincolnshire in 1886, by the Rev. Alfred Hunt; "A Shetland Legend," by Professor W. G. Collingwood; and "Notes on Danes' Skins," by Mr. St. George Gray. In the last paper Mr. Gray brings together from various sources a number of instances of so-called "Danes' skins" nailed to church doors. Mr. Gray discusses the "skins" themselves, the evidence for their discovery and genuineness as specimens of human skin, and shows clearly the strong probability of the truth of the tradition which has held these fragments of skin to be relics of flayed enemies—Danes or other. It is an interesting and well-referenced paper which repays perusal.

The new part (vol. xxxviii., part 2) of the *Journal* of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland contains, among much other matter of interest, papers on "The Fleetwoods of County Cork," by Sir Edmund Bewley; "Novum Castrum McKynegan, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow," by Mr. G. H. Orpen; the second part of "Carrigogunnell Castle," well illustrated, by Mr. T. J. Westropp; "Manufacture of Flint Implements," by Mr. G. Coffey; "An Inscribed Cross-Slab from Gallen Priory," by Mr. E. C. R. Armstrong; and "The Irish Franciscan College at Louvain," by Lieutenant-Colonel W. O. Cavenagh.

In the *Journal* of the Friends' Historical Society, vol. v., No. 3, the interesting collection of "Documents from the Paris National Archives relating to Stephen Grellet" is brought to a close. There is a third instalment of "The Quaker Allusions in 'The Diary of Samuel Pepys'"—more numerous than a casual reader of the *Diary* would imagine — and other contributions give glimpses of the Friends of Dorset, Nottingham, Cumberland, and elsewhere, in days gone by. Mr. Penney's notices of "Friends in Current Literature" cover a wide field, and are well done.

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

The diamond jubilee meeting of the SOMERSET ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held at Taunton on August 18, 19, 20, and 21. On the first day the proceedings began with a welcome by the Mayor and Corporation, followed by the annual business

meeting, the presidential address, which was naturally retrospective in character, being given by the Marquess of Bath. After luncheon the Taunton churches of St. Mary and St. James, and Taunton Castle were visited. At St. Mary's some notes on the tower, prepared by Dr. Allen, were read by the Rev. E. H. Bates, while the interior was described by the Rev. D. J. Pring. At the evening meeting the papers read were: "Excavations at Wick Barrows," by Mr. St. George Gray; "Recent Excavations at Glastonbury Abbey," by Mr. Bligh Bond; and "The Discovery of Meare Lake Village," by Mr. A. Bulleid. Reference has been made in recent issues of the *Antiquary* to two of these topics. With regard to his work at Glastonbury, Mr. Bligh Bond said he had come to the conclusion that the Chapel of St. Edgar, which had been the work of the last two Abbots, was much larger than people thought. According to an inventory sent to Queen Elizabeth, the total length of the great church was 594 feet, which would make it the longest in England, and almost the longest in Christendom. The particulars of this measurement were given in the inventory, and 90 feet was entered as the length of the "chapter-house." As the chapter-house did not form part of the church, that entry was, he considered, a mistake, and what was called the "chapter-house" they now regarded as St. Edgar's Chapel. They had worked out the lines of a rectangular chapel, 54 feet long, and had discovered the foundation of the whole of the west end, as well as portions of the walls. The excavations had also proved that the chapel must have been approached by a flight of steps, and that it was connected with the choir of the church. Their discovery, however, did not satisfy the inventory as to the total length of the church, and they hoped to be able to continue the excavation work, as they expected to find that there was an annexe at the east end of the chapel. During the recent operations a terra-cotta medallion, dated 1105, was discovered, and it had every appearance of being a commemorative token; probably it was commemorative of the beginning of Abbot Herlewin's abbey, which was completely destroyed by fire in 1184. Soon afterwards the building was commenced of the great abbey, the remains of which they saw to-day. Before concluding, Mr. Bligh Bond said that it had been suggested that he should give in Taunton a couple of lectures on Glastonbury Abbey during September, for the benefit of the Purchase Fund. He certainly would be very pleased to do so.

On Wednesday, the 19th, the members had a long driving excursion, visiting Kingston, Broomfield, Cothelstone, Bishop's Lydeard, Halse, and Norton Fitzwarren. At Broomfield the Rev. E. H. Bates pointed out a grand yew-tree, and the fine cross in the churchyard. Mr. Alfred Pope, of Dorchester, said that it was a matter of question when the cross was erected, but it was never erected in the way in which the shaft now rested. There were probably three steps at the base, and he believed that it was erected early in the fifteenth century. It was unusual to see the base of a cross broached, as that one was, unless the octagonal idea was carried up the shaft. He believed that there had been a canopy on the top, with probably a carving of the Virgin, or other figure, in the niche, and it was probable that the canopy was destroyed when the edict went forth in 1643 that all crosses should be demolished. That was one of the very finest specimens of a shaft of early fifteenth-century design he had seen, and he would be very sorry to see it touched in any way; it ought not to be restored or cleaned. In the church the Vicar, the Rev. P. Bulstrode, furnished the usual particulars. The church was chiefly noticeable for the very wonderful and complete set of bench-ends, in some of the designs there being very beautiful Renaissance scrolls. This was probably owing to the introduction of foreign carvers or foreign pattern-books. There was a little Jacobean work mixed up with it. There were the remains of some old stained glass in very fragmentary condition, but of very interesting design.

At Norton Fitzwarren Camp, by kind permission of the Hon. F. Bowes-Lyon, the owner of Norton Manor, and the tenant of the land, Mr. Summerhayes, Mr. Gray had been enabled in July to carry out excavations to the depth of 9½ feet, to make observations with regard to the fosse surrounding the camp. Mr. Gray gave the results of his excavations, and mentioned that he had found 270 fragments of Roman pottery, and ample evidence that a fosse at one time existed. The camp was contemporary with Smallwood Camp, at Evercreech, but there was no doubt that the Roman camp at Norton was used to a greater extent than the Smallwood one. Prof. Boyd Dawkins questioned the acceptance of the suggested date of the camp, and thought that they should not fix such a remote one, but try and get rid of a great deal of what he might call a mythical character in antiquarianism, and be careful to adhere to strict methods as used in other sciences. In the evening the members were entertained by a very pleasant programme of Somerset folk songs and morris-dances.

On the third day the journey was to Crowcombe by train, the church and church-house in that village being inspected, after which the party, in breaks, visited Halsway Manor, Williton, St. Decuman's Church, Nettlecombe Court, Combe Sydenham House, and Monksilver Church. The day was, unfortunately, rainy. At St. Decuman's Church the Rev. C. H. Heale gave a lucid address on the many characteristic features of the building.

In the church there are monuments to the Wyndhams, including an altar-tomb with brasses to Sir John Wyndham, who died 1574, and Elizabeth (*née* Orchard), his wife, who died 1571. Other brasses are to John Wyndham, who died 1572, with an effigy in armour, and to Florence (*née* Wadham), his wife, who died 1596. Florence Wadham was a sister of the founder of Wadham College, Oxford. There is also a tomb of Purbeck marble to George Francis, fourth Earl of Egremont, this having some finely emblazoned shields. The reverend gentleman showed the carved oak roof, choir-stalls, and screen, together with the beautiful reredos erected in 1896. The marble font is new, the exceptional piece of marble being from Anstey, in Devon. The old font is removed to another portion of the church. The double squint and other features were examined, and all wished more time could have been spared to inspect them more thoroughly.

The concluding tour on Friday, August 21, was somewhat spoilt by rain. The places visited were Trull, Poundisford Park, Pitminster, Staple Fitzpaine, Castle Neroche, and Thurlbear. At Trull Mr. Bligh Bond said they had a peculiarly interesting little church; he said "little," because it was on a small scale. The greater portion was of fifteenth-century work, or advanced Perpendicular. At the tower end they had a much earlier archway, and a window, evidently of the thirteenth century. That seemed to be all that was left of the early church, and all the rest was Perpendicular. The chief glory of the church was the rood-screen. As to the date of the bench-ends he had no positive knowledge. There was a very obscure design on one which might be intended for a date, but the rood-screen was very massive and of the Devonshire type. There was one something like it at Brushford, and another one near Tiverton. Almost all the Devonshire screens ran right across the church, but this did not. The screens in the aisles seemed to be a special gift, and of a class of ornamentation generally seen in East Anglia, and not in Somerset. He was sorry that a deplorable amount of damage had been done by the scholars who sat against one portion of the screen. The scholars evidently amused themselves with their pocket-knives during the service, and one boy's initials were accompanied by the date 1908. On the other side some lady had put up un umbrella-stand to disfigure the panels, which were of linen-fold design. The Rev. E. H. Bates asked the members to note the exceptionally good glass in the chancel. In the south-east window were St. Michael, St. Margaret, and St. George, each with the dragon representative of the combat with the powers of evil. Mr. Bates also reminded the party that the churchyard contained some ancient stocks, which, he humorously suggested, might with advantage be used to punish the boys who mutilated the screen. At the back of the farthest seat are eight panels ornamented with the linen pattern, and bearing the words "John Waye, clarke here," and "Simon Warman, maker of this worke. Ano Dni 1560." This Warman, it was explained, also carved the beautiful bench-ends at Broomfield. John Waye was the Vicar of the parish.

The members of the SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY made their annual excursion to Ludlow on August 28, and were fortunate in having Mr. W. H. St. John Hope as their guide. The first place visited was the magnificent church of St. Laurence. The Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell, F.S.A., gave a short account of the history of the building, and Mr. St. John Hope pointed out its architectural features. Ludlow Church was probably laid out on its present lines in the twelfth century, whilst many alterations and additions were made in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The heraldry of the chancel roof points to the first half of the fifteenth century. The church is rich in old stained glass, and there are many chantry chapels, one of the most important being that of the Palmers' Guild, at the end of the north aisle, which has an oak canopy above the altar. There is a mediæval lavatory near the south door, and a little chamber behind the altar at the east end of the chancel, with a twelfth-century window. This Mr. St. John Hope thought was built in order that a bell might be rung at a given point in saying Mass, that the parishioners outside might hear. He thought this was probably the reason for the low-side windows, with their shuttered openings. In later times a bell in the steeple was rung instead of a hand-bell, and the sanctus bellcote marks an intermediate stage.

Ludlow Castle was next visited, and Mr. St. John Hope first spoke of its general history. There is little documentary evidence as to its early history. The Norman builders used the stone they took out of the moat to build a great gateway tower, as they did at Richmond in Yorkshire, instead of making the usual earthen mound. One side of the almond-shaped enclosure of the inner bailey was fortified by Nature, and only required the addition of a wall, against which the later buildings now stand. The great tower was altered in the thirteenth century, the entrance archway being taken away and the lower story made into a dungeon. The entrance was made beside at a different level, and the outer bailey was enclosed and used for various buildings. Of these the porter's lodge still remains, with the prison next to it. Of the Chapel of St. Peter a single wall remains; Sir Henry Sidney turned it into a court-house and muniment-room. In the inner court is the judge's lodgings, built by Sir Henry Sidney, with a newel staircase. The gem of the castle is the round Norman chapel of St. Mary Magdalene. This was finished by an octagonal apse; but Sir Henry Sidney replaced this by a longer chancel of timber-work. He and his family and guests heard the service from a gallery, whilst his dependents occupied the ground-floor. In George I.'s reign the Government allowed everything to fall into irrevocable ruin.

Leaving the castle, the twelfth-century chapel of St. Thomas of Canterbury (now a furniture-store) was visited; and the Grammar School, with its thirteenth-century hall; also Ludford House (originally a hospital of St. Giles) and Ludford Church. The number of members and friends attending was very large.

The annual meeting of the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION was held at Monmouth in August. Many churches and places of interest were visited, including Tintern Abbey and Caerwent. At Staunton Church, the stone pulpit, reached by a staircase, conducting also to the rood-loft and belfry, and two fonts, one Perpendicular, the other square and cut out of one stone, said to be Saxon, were noticed. At Skenfrith Church, untouched as yet by the hands of the restorer, fragments of fourteenth-century glass were pointed out, and fine specimens of Jacobean woodwork, and also an altar-cloth made out of a cope, which is said by local tradition to have been the gift of King John. The last morning was occupied by a tour of the town of Monmouth, under the guidance of Mr. Hobson Matthews. The first place visited was the Catholic Church, in St. Mary Street, where the priest in charge of the mission, the Rev. Sidney Nicholls, very kindly exhibited the principal artistic treasures of his church. These included the celebrated fourteenth-century chasuble of red velvet embroidered with figures, the thirteenth-

century processional cross of bronze, a very fine copper-gilt processional cross which belonged to Evesham Abbey, the two fifteenth-century silver paxes, the silver censer and incense-boat of the same period, the censer and holy-water stoup made by the elder Pugin in his early days, and the altar, chalice, and missal used by John Kemble, who was put to death in 1679. The missal contained entries in Kemble's own handwriting. The Rev. Canon Morris and Mr. Edward Laws, F.S.A., on behalf of the visitors, thanked Father Nicholls, and the party then went to the Parish Church, where Mr. Hobson Matthews, at the request of the Vicar, who is abroad, showed them the ancient glazed tiles, the cresset-stone, holy-water stoup, and other relics, and pointed out the remains of the original Norman building.

The members of the YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY had an interesting excursion on September 3 in the old-world district of South Holderness, and visited the churches of Welwick, Patrington, and Hedon. Welwick is chiefly celebrated for its monuments; the other churches, by their dominating position in the landscape and the great beauty of spire and tower, are known as the "King" and "Queen" of the province. Mr. Bilson gave an account of the architectural development of each church.

Welwick's archæological gem is the tomb of a priest, in a richly vaulted recess, which, tradition states, was brought from Burstall Priory, and which bears a significant resemblance to the Percy tomb in Beverley Minster. It is on the south side of the south aisle, and much mutilated. The recumbent effigy lies on a shallow bed, with an ogee canopy surrounding the head, and evangelistic emblems on the front of the tomb. On the wall above are the mythical arms of Edward the Confessor, the royal arms of England prior to 1339, and three crowns. "These coats," says Mr. Joseph Morris in his book on the East Riding, "seem to have been built into the wall at random, and have no necessary connection with the tomb below." One thing is evident: the tomb was inserted after the south aisle wall was built. Hence the tradition that it was brought from Burstall. The relic is very remarkable, and it is doubtful whether its history will ever be fully revealed. Mr. Bilson does not accept the tradition respecting its removal. He believes the tomb is in its original position, and was not at all likely to have been brought from Burstall Priory. Nobody, however, considers that the beautiful tomb was made at Welwick. In all probability it was sculptured at York or Beverley, and, having been brought to Welwick, it had to be fitted into the wall. Probably it then underwent some alteration. As strong evidence that the tomb was intended for Welwick, Mr. Bilson pointed out that its moulding corresponded with the moulding on the adjoining piscina.

Of much more human interest are the two brass figures of William Wryght and his wife, of Plewland (a farmhouse on the Patrington road), who died in 1621 and 1618 respectively. An inscription records that "after they had lived lovingly together ye space of 50 yeares in the feare of God and love of men, finished a faire pilgrimage to a joyfull Paradice." Two members of this family—John and Christopher Wright—were involved in the Gunpowder Plot conspiracy in 1605. Attention was also drawn to the recently restored rood-screen, which contains fragments of very fine work. Mr. Bilson stated that there was no doubt it had been cut down to give a better view of the eastern window, which was erected thirty years ago, and regarding the merits of which he preferred to make no remark. The pieces of the screen were afterwards recovered from the coal-cellar.

"The Queen of Holderness"—St. Patrick's Church at Patrington—is by common consent one of the most beautiful and most perfect parish churches in the kingdom. It was an appanage of Beverley, and consists of chancel, with vestry on the north, a central tower and spire, transepts, with eastern and western aisles—a most unusual feature in a parish church—and a nave with north and south aisles. It was built almost entirely in the first half of the fourteenth century, its completion having been delayed by the Black Death which visited the country in 1349. The chancel contains one of the few examples of an Easter sepulchre, a most interesting example too, and, happily, in wonderfully good preservation. Three soldiers in chain-armour are sleeping at the foot, their shields bearing respectively a lion, a boss, and the instruments of the Passion. The second compartment was the sepulchre, and the third tier presents a sculptured picture of the Resurrection. The crucifix used to be brought down on Good Friday and placed in the sepulchre, and till dawn on Easter Day watch was kept over it. The symbols were then removed with much ceremonial, and placed on the high-altar in token of the Resurrection.

The members of the DORSET FIELD CLUB had a day among the barrows, stone circles, and cromlechs, on August 20. The route was from Maiden Castle to Bridehead *viâ* Upwey, Corton, Waddon, Portesham, and Gorwell. On the way to Bayard's Barn, Dr. March pointed out a very fine example of a ringed or dished barrow. The diameter of the tumulus itself is about 72 feet, and of the entire structure about 234 feet, and it is noteworthy that the ground on which it rests has a decided slope towards the north. Later in the day, after visiting the Helstone and viewing a typical stone circle, in which thirteen stones still remain, while three lie on the other side of a hedge close by, the drive was continued to a point from which the party obtained a splendid view of the Valley of Stones, with its nearly complete circle, and they observed the clear markings of the ancient rectangular enclosures with which the steep sides of the valley are covered—evidence of habitation and use by a considerable pastoral population in dimly remote times, probably prehistoric, though it is hard to define any period, even approximately, for this most interesting occupation. Dr. Colley March pointed out to the party how admirably this valley illustrates the tendency of the sarsen stones to travel down the steeper slopes and to congregate in the chalk valleys. The bottom of the Valley of Stones is dotted with them so thickly that it is possible to step from one to another for a long distance; and in the street of Portesham there are upwards of sixty great blocks

within a distance of less than 200 yards. Here in this valley, where they saw hedges for partition, the stones had been spared and left alone by man instead of being broken up and built into the walls, as in other parts; but even within the memory of some men still living all the valleys in the district contained similar drift of stones. Many of these valleys, through which streams once flowed, were now dry; but in many places they saw little patches of sand which marked vents out of which the streams gushed after heavy rains. In the evening a short business meeting was held at Bridehead, after which Dr. March gave an address on the subject of orientation and secondary interment in their bearing on the study of barrows.

The BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHÆOLOGICAL CLUB paid a visit on September 5 to the hill-fort on Ditchling Beacon, where Mr. Toms gave a short but interesting series of comments, together with criticisms of a recently published description of the same. The fort, he said, was at an altitude of some 800 to 813 feet, and was one of the highest points on the South Downs—not the highest, as is frequently stated in error. Mr. Toms described the shape of the fort to be "squarish"—*i.e.*, "a square with the corners rounded off and the sides bulged out," distinguishing it as one of about four of the kind to be found in Sussex at Highdown, Hollingbury, Seaford, and Ditchling. The opinion that the Ditchling hill-fort had been an enclosure for cattle only was combated. The speaker was of opinion that it was a strictly military work. The ditch had become silted up by the centuries, and the parapet lowered to a great extent in the flight of years and usage of the land. In early times he calculated that an enemy would have found a 6-foot ditch and a parapet 12 feet high to encounter, and a stockade beyond that. The parapet and ditch could be traced, excepting where the steep declivity of the hill-side rendered any such works unnecessary. He thought it probable the hill-fort or camping-place belonged to the late Bronze Age period. A ditch running westward to a dry pond was much discussed, and here again Mr. Toms was in conflict with published accounts of the place. He could not agree that this work was anything like the age of the hill-fort itself.

On August 20 the members of the EAST HERTS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY visited Baldock and Weston. The chief features of interest at Baldock Church are the canopied screen extending across nave and aisles, the transition-Norman font, a thirteenth-century coffin-cover with floriated cross, several brasses, and a south chapel containing piscina, sedilia, and decorated recess for an image. Mr. Walter Millard exhibited a plan and section prepared by Mr. G. H. Russell, and described in outline the architectural history of the fabric. The Wynne Almshouses, highly picturesque Jacobean cottages, founded by William Wynne, *temp.* James I., were then visited, and an account of the charity was given by Mr. F. W. Cannon. The party next proceeded to Dr. Day's house to view the fine pair of gates, said to have been brought hither from the mansion at Quickswood, Clothall. Tradition has it that, *circa* 1780, the noble owner's indiscretions caused his heir great annoyance, so much so that, at the decease of the former, the house was razed to the ground and the materials disposed of, the gates being acquired by the builder of the house, now Dr. Day's. Some remarks upon this story, and other statements regarding their place of origin, were given by Mr. Charles Brown. After luncheon Fairclough Hall, now known as Hall's Green Farm, was visited. The farm is a seventeenth-century building much modernized. Next came Weston Church, which has a central tower with typical arcades, Perpendicular windows, and a piscina in the south aisle. It is the burial-place of the celebrated Jack o' Legs—a "Hertfordshire Robin Hood." Mr. A. H. Bradbeer exhibited a plan prepared by Mr. William Sheen, and read a paper upon the parish and church. The last place visited was Weston Park, a modern mansion, in the beautiful gardens of which is a large pond, the only one remaining of a chain of ponds in the valley, which were probably the fish-stews pertaining to the Knights Templars, who are believed to have had a Preceptory in the vicinity, probably near the church.

The monthly meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE was held on August 26, Professor Haverfield presiding. Mr. H. J. Coulson, of Blandford, Dorset, was thanked for the gifts of a Roman centurial stone taken from his estate at Allerlee, and for an altar discovered during some excavations at the camp at Æsica. The discoveries were described by Mr. F. Gerald Simpson and Mr. J. P. Gibson. The latter gentleman thought that the altar had been taken from a villa of one of the Roman officers. Its inscription showed that it had been dedicated to the Goddess Fortune. The chairman thought that the altar had been taken from a casino rather than a villa, but it was none the less one of those interesting and curious military stones in which our Roman frontier abounded. Mr. Coulson was thanked for his gifts, which are to form part of the collection in the Black Gate Museum. An interesting account of the work which is being undertaken at the Corbridge Camp was given by Mr. Knowles. The chairman congratulated the Society on the number of Roman discoveries its members were bringing about. He trusted that the work at Corbridge would be largely inspected next month, when the Society was arranging an excursion. He had never seen such fine masonry as some of the work which was now exposed in the buildings which Mr. Knowles had explained. He hoped that the members would add to their interest in this work by solid donations, and so enable the discoveries to be carried further.

Other excursions have been those of the DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY to Dunstanburgh Castle and the district between Alnmouth and Embleton, on September 4; the ISLE OF MAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY to the antiquities in Andreas, on August 20; the HALIFAX ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY to Lightcliffe, on September 5; the EAST RIDING ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY to Howden Church and Wressle Castle on August 24; and the HAMPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY to Monk Sherborne, Pamber, and the Vyne, on August 27.

Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[*Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.*]

THE MEITHEIS. By T. C. Hodson. With an Introduction by Sir C. J. Lyall, K.C.S.I. Illustrated. London: *David Nutt*, 1908. Demy 8vo., pp. xvii, 227. Price 7s. 6d.

THE MIKIRS. From the papers of the late Edward Stack. Edited by Sir Charles Lyall. Illustrated. London: *David Nutt*, 1908. Demy 8vo., pp. xx, 183. Price 7s. 6d.

These are the second and third volumes of a series of monographs on the tribes and castes of Assam, which are being published under the orders of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The first volume, Major Gurdon's book on *The Khasis*, was noticed in these pages in June last year. It is difficult to over-estimate the value of the services to science which the Government is rendering by the publication of these ethnographical monographs. The volumes before us bring together a mass of matter both from printed sources (much of it out of the way of the ordinary student) and from intimate personal knowledge, regarding two of the tribes of the Brahmaputra Valley, of the greatest importance. The specific manners and customs, beliefs and habits of individual tribes are so rapidly being obliterated by the greater facilities of intercourse with the outer world and with modern civilization, that all work of the kind here so well performed is specially timely and valuable. The Meitheis, with whom we first became well acquainted in the Burma War of 1824-1826, are the dominant race of Manipur—a State which came prominently before the British public on the occasion of the terrible outbreak of 1891. There is already in existence a certain amount of literature regarding the Meitheis, which Mr. Hodson has turned to excellent account; but he has also been able to add, in the latter part of the book, from his own experience in the administration of the State, and his intimate acquaintance with the people and their language and with the subject tribes, a vast amount of quite fresh and important matter relating to the folk-lore, folk-tales, and traditions of the Meitheis. The earlier sections of the volume deal with such subjects as the origin, affinities, dress, weapons, habitations, handicrafts, utensils, agriculture, hunting, food, and games of the people, and with their laws and customs and religion.

The volume on the Mikirs contains, digested and arranged, the collections made by the late Edward Stack some twenty years ago during his official service in Assam—made with an enthusiastic devotion to which Sir Charles Lyall pays a tribute in his introduction. Sir Charles, who is responsible for the editing and arranging of Stack's material, has supplemented it by the addition of chapters based on personal knowledge and on material from many sources. The sections into which the book is divided are general, domestic life, laws and customs, religion, folk-lore and folk-tales, language and affinities, with a most useful bibliography and index appended. It is impossible in this brief notice to attempt to indicate even a few of the striking features of these two books. We can only say that they form fascinating reading. They contain so much that is new and of value to ethnographical and to folk-lore students, they rescue so much that is rapidly perishing, and are so well edited and arranged, that their publication is an event of unusual importance. The illustrations, many of them in colour, capitally reproduced, add greatly to the usefulness of the books.

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CHARLTON, NEAR WOOLWICH, KENT. By Leonard Morgan May. London: *Blackheath Press*, 1908. 4to., pp. x, 110. Price 10s. 6d.; 150 copies.

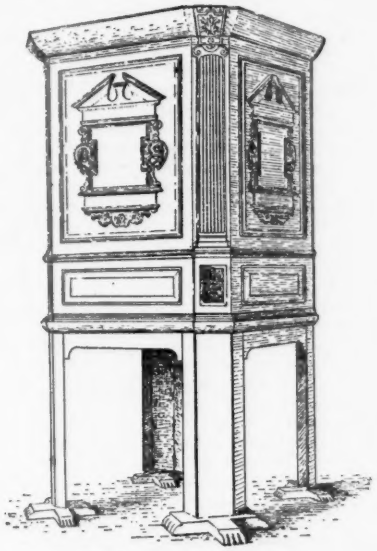
The Congress of Archæological Societies held in 1906 appointed a committee to prepare instructions for a uniform system of transcription of church and churchyard inscriptions, the importance of the preservation of all such records being recognized on all hands. That committee issued a paper of directions which received the approval of the 1907 Congress, and the volume before us may be regarded as one of the direct fruits of the action taken by successive Congresses. Mr. May has taken to heart the advice and recommendations of the committee, and in this handsome volume has performed with conscientious care a very useful piece of work. He first gives a brief sketch, from the original sources, of the history of the manor of Charlton from the Domesday survey to the present time, when it is held by Sir Spenser Maryon-Wilson, the descendant of the John Maryon on whom the manor devolved in 1732. This is followed by some brief historical and genealogical notes on some of the families connected with Charlton. These include some important family names—Blount, Congreve, Frazer, Langhorne, Parker, Wilson, and others. The notes, though brief, are evidently the fruit of considerable labour and careful research. The remainder of the book—much the greater part—is occupied by careful transcriptions of all the inscriptions in both the church and the churchyard, including some in the church, which, though now lost or illegible, have been gathered from Thorpe's *Registrum Roffense*. A plan of the churchyard is given, with each monument numbered. The volume ends with an index of places referred to on the monuments, a particularly useful addition. Mr. May has accomplished thoroughly a somewhat tedious undertaking, and deserves especially the thanks of all interested in the locality. The volume is particularly well printed and produced.

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LINCOLN COLLEGE, OXFORD. By Stephen A. Warner, B.A. Sixty illustrations. London: *Arnold Fairbairns and Co., Ltd.*, 1908. Crown 4to., pp. 108. Price 6s. net.

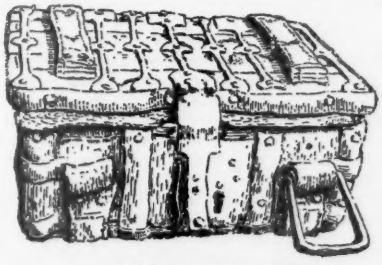
The publishers of this volume are newcomers, comparatively speaking, in the publishing world; but they have already published several beautiful books, and Mr. Warner's work will assuredly add to their reputation. In print, paper, and binding it is all that a book-lover could wish, while of the illustrations it is difficult to speak too highly. The collotype plates are among the most beautiful that we remember to have seen. Notwithstanding consider-

able reduction, the effects of light and shade are wonderfully rendered, and justice is done to every detail. The college exterior, the quadrangles, the senior common-room, the rector's dining-room, the chapel screen and interior, the library, and the hall are among the subjects of the collotype illustrations,



JOHN WESLEY'S PULPIT.

and the college arms are reproduced in colour. Besides these plates there are a number of charming little cuts in the text, two of which we are courteously permitted to reproduce. They show respectively the pulpit from which John Wesley used to preach, which now stands in the ante-chapel, and a small strong-



SMALL STRONG BOX IN LIBRARY.

box, kept in the library, which dates from about the early sixteenth century. These are but specimens of many dainty little cuts. We have not said anything yet as regards the printed contents of the book, for we found the illustrations so fascinating that the letterpress was bound to take second place. It is, however, no mere writing up to pictures. Mr. Warner is a Lincoln man, and knows pretty well all there is to be known regarding the history of the college and of its treasures. He first gives a general sketch, accurate and readable, of the history of the college; and then, in a series of short, pointed notes, describes details of the buildings—external and internal; the college plate; seals and arms; the founders' tombs—those of Richard Fleming in Lincoln Cathedral and Thomas Rotheram in York Minster; the college bâton; the barge and pavilion, and many other places and persons connected with the college. The volume ends with a list of the rectors, with facsimiles of their signatures where obtainable; the college grace; some filial verses by Mr. James Williams; and a good index. Mr. Warner enlivens his sketch of the college history with anecdotal humour. Lincoln men were firm upholders of "gaudy" days, and looked well after the inner man. There were great potations on "count" days, and in 1669 the Fellows, says Mr. Warner, "went so far as to start with 'sider in the common chamber *the day before the accounts*'"! On the occasion of a Progress through the college manors in Kent in the time of Thomas Marshall, Rector from 1672-1685, the officers note that they had "bread and beer on the rode" to Rochester, and "burnt brandy when we came to Canterbury." On another occasion there is a naïve charge for "drincke by the way *and before we went*."

Every Lincoln man is bound to possess this beautiful book, and both its text and its pictures should appeal to a very large outer circle of readers.

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THE ANNALS OF WILLENHALL. By Frederick W. Hackwood. Wolverhampton: *Whitehead Bros.*, 1908. 8vo., pp. 194. Price 5s., subscribers' edition; 2s. 6d., popular edition.

Mr. Hackwood is no novice at Staffordshire history. He has already published industriously compiled, matterful books on Cannock Chase, Wednesbury, and other Staffordshire towns and themes, and this new book on Willenhall is of the same order as its predecessors. Beginning with a discussion of the meaning of the name Willenhall, and an account of the battle of Wednesfield in the year 911, and its results, Mr. Hackwood takes his readers through the history of the township down to modern days. Ecclesiastically, Willenhall was never a parish—it is part of the sprawling parish of Wolverhampton, so that much of the ecclesiastical story of the latter town is involved in that of Willenhall. Wolverhampton takes its name—Wulfrun's Hampton—from the noble Wulfruna, who founded a collegiate church at Hampton (or High Town) in 966. Mr. Hackwood, after quoting part of the charter by which Wulfruna's gift was made, remarks that "Mr. Duignan, who has made a close study of the charter, says: 'The limits of the parishes and of the townships included in the grant are now precisely what they were a thousand years ago.'" We may note, by the way, that the book contains ample evidence of the author's diligence in the examination of original sources. Full accounts are given of the events at Willenhall, and in the neighbourhood, during the religious and political troubles of the

sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. During the Civil War Willenhall occupied an unfortunate position, for it lay midway between Dudley Castle, held for the King, and Rushall Hall, a Parliamentary stronghold, with the natural consequence that "both sides in turn, as they were in a position to enforce payment, made levies of money upon the unfortunate inhabitants of the district." The various families of note in the town and neighbourhood, the local charities, and, indeed, all sides of Willenhall history and social life are well described and illustrated in this carefully prepared book. The portraits of persons and pictures of localities associated with the town and district are usefully illustrative. Mr. Hackwood's writing is usually clear and straightforward; but to say (p. 51) that such a one "contrived to grab no end of church property" is a mode of expression not remarkable for elegance. An index completes a volume which is a distinct addition to the county's topographical library.

* * *

By the Roman Wall. By Maria A. Hoyer. With illustrations from sketches and photographs by the author. London: *David Nutt*, 1908. 8vo., pp. xvi, 159. Price 2s. 6d. net.

This is not a book for antiquaries or for students. As the sub-title—"Notes on a Summer Holiday"—suggests, it is intended for that much-catered-for individual, the intelligent general reader. It is a record of an exploration of the Wall made by two young ladies of archæological tastes, possessed of good spirits, and a determination not to be daunted by difficulties, and the record is pleasant reading from cover to cover. Miss Hoyer and her friend met with abundance of rain—it does sometimes rain on the Wall!—but nothing damped their cheerful enthusiasm. They managed to see most that was worth seeing, and Miss Hoyer writes very intelligently as well as readably upon the Wall and its builders, and upon the many relics of the Roman defenders which they visited and examined in the course of their wanderings. The ladies' experiences in country inns are amusing to read; but they seem to have met with unusual ill-luck on one or two occasions when lunch was hard to come by. These pleasant notes on what was clearly a most enjoyable holiday pilgrimage are illustrated by good photographs and inoffensive sketches by the author. There is also the most useful addition of a capital folding map of the Wall and its neighbourhood.

* * *

Royal Descents: Scottish Records. By the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, M.A., F.S.A., and J. Bolam Johnson. Walton-on-Thames: *C. A. Bernau;* London: *Simpkin, Marshall*, 1908. 16mo., pp. 97. Price 2s. 6d. net.

All genealogists should support the enterprise of Mr. C. A. Bernau in issuing, in so attractive a form, the little volumes of "The Genealogist's Pocket Library," of which that before us is the third. Mr. Fletcher's explanation of royal descents—why they are worth tracing, their surprising abundance, how to set to work, how to succeed, and so on, with illustrative examples—makes capital reading, even for the non-genealogical reader. He combines a light touch with accuracy and care. Few people realize how widely diffused is royal blood. Mr. Fletcher remarks that probably most families that possess a pedigree of seven or eight generations in the paternal line have "at least one descent from the Kings of England, perhaps many lines of descent, even though they may be quite unaware of it"; and he goes on to show how this has come about. The difficulty, of course, in most cases is to trace and prove the descent. Royal blood is confined to no one class. "I know of a cab-driver," says Mr. Fletcher, "who has the blood of Edward I. in his veins; and not long ago I joined in marriage the daughter of a policeman to a plumber whose pedigree goes back 850 years, and who is descended from four sons of Edward III." In the second part of the book Mr. Johnson gives a summarized account of the various classes of Scottish records, describes the nature of the purposes they have served, and the way in which they are useful to the genealogist. The classification and analysis, though necessarily brief, will be found extremely useful by Scottish genealogical students.

* * *

Four small contributions to local history—three of them East Anglian—lie before us, and may be conveniently noticed together. First comes *A Short Historical Guide to Castleacre*, by the Rev. Dr. Astley (Swaffham: *William Gould and Sons;* price 6d.). The Norfolk village of Castleacre year by year attracts many visitors, who come to see, chiefly, the splendid remains of the famous Priory, and who will find Dr. Astley's booklet extremely useful. Within a circle of but half a mile diameter, at Castleacre, as Mr. St. John Hope has pointed out, there may be seen "a Roman camp, an Anglian burh, a Norman castle, a fine mediæval church, and extensive ruins of a Cluniac Priory, besides some interesting ancient domestic architecture of various dates." What more need be said to emphasize the interest and importance of this almost unique village? Dr. Astley is a competent guide to the various above-named centres of attraction, and his interesting booklet, with its abundance of good illustrations—the frontispiece, showing the grand west doorway of the Priory, is alone worth the modest sixpence asked for the book—should attract many new visitors to historic Castleacre.

* * *

In his *Guide to the Town of Brandon and the Oldest Industry in Britain* (Thetford: W. Broughton and Sons, Ltd.; price 6d.), Mr. W. G. Clarke provides an admirable Suffolk companion to Dr. Astley's Norfolk guide. The "oldest industry" referred to in the title, archæologists will hardly need to be told, is the "flint-knapping," the manufacture of gun-flints, which is carried on here (and nowhere else in Great Britain), and which may be regarded, with the help of a little imagination, as the direct descendant of the flint arrow-head manufacture of Neolithic days. Mr. Clarke describes the Brandon of the present day, and a very pleasant riverside village it would appear to be, and discusses the district as it was in prehistoric times. Thousands of Neolithic implements have been found in the locality, the chips indicating manufacture thereof, as well as flint-mining. A very interesting chapter describes the methods of flint-mining and "knapping" as carried

on at the present time. Nowhere else can such a peculiar business be observed and studied. Some 3,000,000 Brandon gun-flints are exported annually. Incidentally it is to be feared that the flint-knappers provide a good many spurious "prehistoric relics." Mr. Clarke's booklet is well illustrated, and will interest many besides those who are able actually to visit the seat of the "oldest industry in Britain."

* * *

Our third contribution to the literature of East Anglian topography is *Rayleigh in Past Days*, by the Rev. A. G. Fryer, M.A., Rector, published in stiff covers by Messrs. Bemrose and Sons at 2s. net. The attractions of Rayleigh, besides a fourteenth-century church, include a British earthwork, "The Mount," closely resembling the ancient earthwork at Sarum; some traces of the "King's Park," once a royal forest; and a pleasant situation in the midst of attractive country. Mr. Fryer's little book is eminently readable. He devotes most space to his fine church and its history, especially to the church history of the sixteenth century, and chats pleasantly about the Rayleigh of seventy and one hundred years ago, of latter-day village belief in witchcraft, of the old Workhouse, and of other local topics. The more serious side of the village's history is not neglected. Mr. Fryer sketches briefly the early days of Rayleigh in Norman and pre-Norman times, and has short notes on the lords of the manor, on the succession of rectors from 1310 onwards, and on the barony of Rayleigh, a long extinct title re-created in 1821. Mr. Fryer's book, which is well illustrated by a number of photographic plates, is an unpretending but useful addition to the Essex library.

* * *

The fourth booklet on our list is a *History of Woodspring Priory, Somerset*, by W. G. Willis Watson (Weston-super-Mare: Lawrence Brothers; price 1s. net). Many visitors to the western watering-place must have found their way to Woodspring, but few of them, it is to be hoped, have been so ignorant as the local "guide," who, when asked by Mr. Watson to whom the shields on the piers at the entrance belonged, explained that they were the arms of Queen Mary Tudor and Thomas à Becket, who "lived here together"! Mr. Watson describes the secluded situation of Woodspring and the foundation of the Priory, and sketches the history of the House to the suppression and dissolution, with a brief note on the subsequent history of the buildings. The monastic barn, a building of doubtful use (now a shelter for farm waggons, but which may have been the guest-house), portions of the cloister walls, and a considerable part of the Priory church, still stand, and are carefully described. Mr. Watson's book will be found very useful by all visitors to these relics of an older day, which, though in a quiet and secluded spot, are within easy reach of populous centres.

* * *

Messrs. Lenygon and Co., Ltd., of 31, Old Burlington Street, send us *A Chart of the Arts in England from* 1660 *to* 1800, price 2s. 6d. net. This chart, which is in two folding sheets, in a stiff cover, folio, gives in a series of parallel columns, decade by decade, besides the British sovereigns and ministries and some of the chief events in the world's history, lists with birth and death dates of (1) the chief contemporary Continental art-workers (painters, architects, sculptors, jewellers, furniture-makers, etc.); and for Britain, (2) painters and sculptors; (3) engravers, with distinguishing letters for etchers and for line, stipple, and mezzotint engravers; and (4) workers in various arts and crafts, including the establishment of various industries. These are followed by lists, for each decade, of buildings, with the names of the respective architects, of books published in England (1) on architecture, (2) on furniture and decoration, and (3) general works of literature. The last column is open to some criticism on account of both its inclusions and its omissions; but, as a whole, the chart gives a useful conspectus of the art-work and literature of the period covered. The bibliographical lists for architecture, furniture, and decoration are commendably full. There are some irritating misprints: Rowlandson, rightly spelt in one column, becomes "Rowlanson" in another; similarly Hogarth, correctly spelt in one, loses the last letter of his name in another. Prior masquerades as "Priot," and Robertson as "Roberston."

* * *

We have on our table Part 5 (price 1s. net) of Mr. Henry Harrison's *Surnames of the United Kingdom* (The Eaton Press, 190, Ebury Street, S.W.) which carries the dictionary from Catton to Comerford. Mr. Harrison has undertaken a heavy task, and is accomplishing it with a very large measure of success. The work, which is expected to be completed in about twenty-five parts, will form a valuable reference-book. We have also received *Stoneywood Churchyard Epitaphs* (Aberdeen: Thomson and Duncan). an eight-page tract containing a complete transcript of the inscriptions in the old Kirkyard of Stoneywood, in the parish of Newhills, Aberdeenshire, with a few notes on the old chapel, by Mr. Robert Murdoch-Lawrance.

* * *

The *Architectural Review*, August, besides various lavishly illustrated articles of chiefly professional interest, contains a good paper, freely illustrated, by Mr. Francis Bond, on "Leominster Church," a great and extraordinary structure, square in plan, with three naves, all of about the same breadth, a narrow north aisle, and a south porch, but no chancel. Mr. Bond makes clear the architectural history of the church. There is also the first part of a paper, with many illustrations, on "Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A.," by Mr. M. S. Briggs, of which a second part appears in the September issue. The *Expert*, August and September, contains much matter of antiquarian interest, including illustrated articles on Old Silver Salvers, Ewers, and Standing Cups, Old Snuff-boxes, Plymouth and Bristol China, and Old Cradles.

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The *East Anglian*, July, contains a copy of the will of Archbishop Harsnett, dated 1630, a reprint of an eighteenth-century tract detailing the constitution of a charity school at Holton, Suffolk, and continuations of several documentary serials. The August number contains many Church Notes. The *East Anglian* is laudably conspicuous among local periodicals for the large amount of quite fresh and original material

which it puts into print. We have also received *Rivista d' Italia* for August, and *Northamptonshire Notes and Queries*, for June, well edited and well produced.

Correspondence.

THE QUEBEC CELEBRATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

PERHAPS a reference in your pages to the recent celebrations at Quebec will not be out of place. Representatives of three nations—France, the United States, and Great Britain, with "the Dominions beyond the Seas"—joined together last July to commemorate historical events which are not merely of local, but also of national and international interest.

Not only has the history of Quebec been a long one for this continent, but it is enriched by the memory of brave deeds and heroic lives, and touched with the twofold romance of both the Old World known for centuries and the New World while still awaiting discovery. This story was well illustrated by the historical procession through the town, and the pageant, which gave picturesque representations of some of the more striking events of the old régime, from the date of Jacques Cartier's first arrival in 1535 to the final struggle of 1759.

The city and its neighbourhood provided in themselves a most fitting "scene" for such a celebration. The natural beauty of the surroundings is unsurpassed, and in the town itself the new has not been allowed to bury and conceal the old. One example amongst many may be quoted: close to the river, and not far from Champlain's original "Abitation," stands the old church of Nôtre Dame des Victoires, so called in commemoration of French victories over the British some years previous to the conquest.

The celebration was a double one, in that the tercentenary of the landing of Samuel de Champlain in 1608 was also made the occasion for the successful carrying out of the plan to purchase and present to the nation the historic battle-grounds of 1759 and 1760. An interesting link with those years of the past was afforded by the presence of the representatives of the families of Montcalm and Lévis, of Wolfe, Murray, Fraser, and others.

But it was not forgotten that the primary purpose of the gathering was to commemorate the life-work of Samuel de Champlain, and the achievements of Frenchmen and Frenchwomen in laying the foundations of Canada. Thus most fittingly one of the representatives of France who attended was the Mayor of Bronage, the old seaport near the coast of Biscay, where Champlain was born. And the celebration may be said to have culminated in the moment when Champlain himself with his followers was seen approaching in an exact model of his little ship, the *Don de Dieu*, and, accompanied by Indians in their canoes, sailed up the river, past the huge modern battleships of three nations, to take his place as the central figure in the historical procession that passed up the hill in review before the Prince of Wales.

The Prince himself, in an admirably worded speech, did full justice to the greatness of Champlain, as he stood beneath his statue, "which looks proudly across the city which he founded to the north-west, whose greatness he foresaw."

The whole celebration has been significant as an indication of the unity of the Canadian people in both its French and English speaking branches, and of the existing happy relations between Britain, France, and the United States; and lastly, it has been of value as calling to mind, both to Canadians themselves and to others, that Canada also has her "antiquities," in a history of which her people may well be proud, and a past to which their reverence is due. It serves, too, as a reminder that the abiding greatness of Canada will largely depend on her abiding fidelity to the best traditions of the two mother countries, France and Britain. Even in the New World the old words will be found to hold good: "Moribus antiquis stat Res Romana virisque."

G. O. SMITH.

229, Crawford Street,
Toronto, Canada.

[Our correspondent, to whom our thanks are due for his interesting letter, kindly sends us a copy of the *Canadian Pictorial* for August (Montreal, price 15 cents), which is crammed with good pictures of the celebration and of the chief actors therein.—ED.]

COUNTERFEIT ANTIQUITIES.

TO THE EDITOR.

REFERRING to Mr. Ravenscroft's letter on page 360 of your September issue, the vase figured in my paper is the identical one referred to by Dr. Stevens in his paper, and by the side of it we have the lost fragment which was found in a corner of the room. When writing my notes I had not seen Dr. Stevens's pamphlet, and I am obliged to Mr. Ravenscroft for calling my attention to it.

T. SHEPPARD, F.S.A.SCOT.

The Municipal Museum, Hull.
September 17, 1908.

ERRATA.—Owing to absence from home, the proofs of my article on "Norfolk in Prehistoric Times" were uncorrected. On p. 327 a reference to implements from Botany Bay, Weeting, should state that they belong to one of the earlier types of paleoliths. On p. 328 (first column), "70-fathom line" should be "10-fathom line"; and on p. 330 (second column), "cooking-stones" is intended, not "cooking-stoves." The heathland referred to on the same page as in the vicinity of Thetford should be in "south-west" not "north-west" Norfolk. On p. 331 (second column) and on p. 332 "country" appears for "county." On the former page "Brythors" should be "Brythons"; and on the latter page the number of barrows of which there is record in the county is 170, not 120. "Rondham" also should be "Roudham," and "Weding," "Weeting." —W. G. CLARKE.

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—*We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.*